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Koford, C.B.

Journal

Puma Study

1973 - 1977

C. Koford

Journal
Puma Project

Berkeley, Calif.

1 July 1973. Sunday. Commenced 3-yr project to inventory puma numbers and distribution in California. Sponsored by Defenders of Wildlife & National Audubon Society. Senior Investigator is A. Starker Leopold. We had advisory committee meeting with Mrs. Margaret Owings & Jim Stokes of Big Sur on 17 June 1973. Dept. of Fish & Game has made statewide oral question survey, resulting in rough maps low, medium, & high densities. They plan intensive study in S. Monterey Co., apparently emphasizing capture and radio tracking of all pumas. Larry Sitton, about 30 yrs., formerly San Jose State Coll., their main investigator. They are to have management plan by early 1976. We will report annually to Defenders, before April.

2 July 1973. Picked up U.C. car & prepared for field trips to Los Padres Nat. For. and adjacent areas.

To San Luis Obispo Co.

3 July 1973. Left 0900 and drove via highway 5 to Cholame. Near Newman, saw golden eagle on post, later one flying, both with white tails, black-tipped (immims.). Visited Eben McMillan & discussed project, areas, people to see. Then to Ian McMillan ranch, my field headquarters in region. He talked about recent live capture of puma by Eldon (?) Bergman for F&G. He suggested talk with Mr. Cade of King City, owner of Laguna Ranch in San Benito Co., which may have been good puma area. | Quail - one still on nest near old adobe. Some coveys with 20 or + young near ranch house. Few deer this year, but in eve we went down to alfalfa fields on Sinton Ranch & found 22 including 2 bucks, 2 fawns, rest yearlings + does. Much new grape vineyard planting in that area + between Gillis Canyon + Shandon. Near gate across from old McM. house, coyote & bobcat tracks (Mike Irwin,

Journal

3 July 1973 Shandon, S.L. Obispo Co., Calif.

quail student, said often there. Sam thought F+G estimate of 168 puma in county much too high. Ch said had seen puma tracks Castle Mtn. in past (now a road there). Also saw a bobcat recently near his house.

4 July 1973. More talk with Ch + Ike, + work on gear.

5 July 1973. With Erik, drove to Cambria via highway 46 to look for Sitton. Many fingerling trout in clear 10' wide stream on ocean side of range. Called Mrs. Sitton; Larry at Hunter Liggett reservation. We drove up highway 1 to north, then up Ferguson - Nacimiento road through chaparral slopes (oaks, bay too) about 7 miles to summit, stopping to search for puma sign. Then down to Jolon, about 30 mi. from highway no. 1. Several campgrounds along road. Flat at reservation dry, heavily grazed, wide spaced large oaks, hot. We finally found wildlife-range office at Post Engineers and waited there for Mike Strand (former H. Heady student). Also with him was Garry ——, wildlife man for Ft. Ord as well (from Univ. Missouri). They said Bergman had been there w. dogs but no fresh tracks found; only about 2 days old. Strand said puma tracks easily found in area around Burro Cr., S. of Nac.-Ferguson road, + many roads available. Larry had car trouble + returned early to Cambria. Strand + Garry seemed willing to cooperate in study, but no further puma work planned for several days. / We drove back to Paso Robles + Mc M. ranch.

Journal

6 July 1973 Fri. Thurs. Santa Barbara area, Calif.

Left early for Santa Maria. At Ranger Sta. (W. Cannon) talked w. ranger Willard R. Griffin, S. Lucia Ranger district. He offered to help with facilities and transport, but preferred not enter high fire hazard zone until cooler weather. The Resource Forester, Harley L. Greiman, much interested in wildlife, had many photos, & had plotted locations of puma (& other) sightings during past 8 months. Some near Figueroa Mtn. - Davy Brown area, others Boten Canyon (Griffin), SB Potreros, Pozo area. He suggested Colson - La Brea area of forest. He said Dick Smith (S. Barbara newspaper man) had photoed puma (S.B. Potreros?). / We went on to Goleta, to forest headquarters. Talked with biologist Montague, who had little direct information of value. Also talked briefly with Ray Dolen, Resources Forester. / Then to Los Prietos R. S. nr. San Marcos Pass, where talked with D.R. Don Vaughan. He said we could stay at Bluff Camp cabins in fire-closure area. He suggested area E. of there as real wilderness, as unburned for many years. It also had network of crude jeep roads, useful for observation. He said he found lion kill or road near west Big Pine Mtn. Said it snowed atop that mtn. in winter. / We went to area Los Olivos, Tepusquet Rd., Colson Canyon, & camped among oaks in dry zone. / In S. Barbara we also talked w. Waldo Abbott at S.B. museum. He had in freezer a puma cub, estimated 4 mos. old, found dead in Feb. 1973 on W. Camino Cielo, Presbyterian Conference Grounds; apparently had starved. Cal. Fish & G. men had examined carcass. Museum also had skin of one about 6 mos. old, also taken on W. Camino Cielo, 2 1/2 mi. W. of San Marcos Pass in July 1964. This (?) one had 2 possums in stomach. / Waldo also said occasional reports of a black puma w. yellow eyes near Santa Barbara; possibly escaped from zoo. He said that he had seen puma on ridge near Davy Brown camp several years ago.

Mr. Marion Vincent

~~Po~~ Glennville — hunter, hounds, rancher.

Evelyn Farnsworth — Glennville

Journal

7 July 1963. S. La Brea Cr., S. Barbara Co.

(0845). From Colson camp to locked gate at Bob Goodchild ranch. Two men here hunting; first day of deer season. Rocky canyon w. big oaks, grass, chaparral on hills; cattle. Walked up S. La Brea Creek, where a dirt road clear to Hiawatha camp. Several groups bee hives in canyon. ♀ at Goodchild's said that a couple of pumas had been killed in area. Road good for tracks; toads, snakes, Cnemidophorus lizards, quail, bobcat. About ½ mile up canyon, tracks of black bear on road (hindfoot 9" long, heel to tip toes) (5" wide front pad). An adult golden eagle flew up from creek in rocky area. Passed windmill & trailer 0925. Water periodically in creek; small fish, polywogs, much algae. Deer tracks rare! No rabbits seen; no racoon tracks. Clear hot day. Much adenostoma, Ceanothus, arctostaphylos brush. In bottom, sycamore, live oaks. 1100, stepped on Phrynosoma in dust; Erik picked it up; blood squirted in spray from its eyelid (e?), over about 18" up & down Erik's shirt. (Later found others.) At 1255 reached "Chuchador" Camp, cleared spot under oaks, 50 yds. from beehives, 2 closed camp stoves. Water in creekbed nearby, 3' wide running. About 200 yds. upstream, larger pools, to 5' deep, & 20± fish to 5" long (chubs?). A few tall alders here. We walked on to Hiawatha area, where road ended at another gp. of buzzing hives. Drier here & no water. Sierra Madre road visible about 3 mi. to N. Some cattle. Bear tracks still, & fox, coyote, bobcat scats. No lion sign. Grass-filled droppings of bear. Millipedes & Jerusalem crickets in fox droppings. We searched areas near canyon mouths, away from road, & slowly returned to Chuchador. | About 200 yds. below, in wet sand by rock in creekbed, track of puma, front? pad 53 mm. wide, track 82 mm. long (heel + toe pads); apparently protected by rock as no other tracks. | In evening, I was tooting game call when a doe appeared on slope above me & charged toward me, stomping forefeet down hard, about

track

no photo

Mel Hammond
Game Warden
Nr. Paso Robles –
lives trailer
(wife also interested conservation)

CKoford

Journal

7 July 1973. Sunday. S. La Brea Cr., Sta. Barbara Co.

100 yds. distant. I tooted again; she came closer, finally to about 100' before fleeing from us. / Poorwill called much, repeatedly, in evening; whistled imitation drew quick responses + acceleration in rate of calling. No owls heard. / I put catnip in 4 cleared spots on edge road near camp. Saw only 3 doe deer in evening. Clear calm night.

8 July 1973. Tracks fox (?) on 2 cleared sites, but no apparent interest in old dried catnip. Departed 0745 down canyon, slowly exploring side trails for sign. More bear tracks on road. Saw goldfinches, black-headed grosbeaks, scrub jays, ~~tow~~ flicker, red-tailed hawk. At 1209 about 1 mile above houses of ranch, where saw golden eagle yesterday, saw doe w. 2 spotted fawns, all apparently healthy. Also found fresh

Track — puma tracks crossing road from grassy bank to creek bed + up far slope; tracks over distance about 50 yds. Larger than 7 July track. 88 mm. wide across

t 28 — toes. Live oaks bottom, chaparral on slopes. Larger than previous track, so at least 2 in 12 mi. of road (2 man, up + back). Hot day. Goodchild unavailable; group with guns in jeeps running roads. Reached car 1255, at Goodchild's gate. Road good for tracking but occasional car traffic + livestock interfered. / Drove down Cuyama Canyon, then to San Luis Obispo and to McMillan Ranch. Student Mike Erwin (quail) there now.

9 July 1973. Monday. With Erik, drove to Navajo Camp, then Black Mtn. lookout in Los Padres Nat. For., looking for puma sign + suitability of area for intensive search. Basically chaparral dry hills, fairly continuous Black Mtn.–Branch Mtn. (manned Lookout); former w. radar microwave station too. Saw no deer, but coyote, fox droppings on ridges and trails. Saw 2 or 3 roadrunners nr. Black Mtn. LO, one chipmunk near Navajo Camp. This section of Nat. Forest much used

Journal

~~8~~ 9 July 1973. Monday. Los ~~Padres~~ Padres Nat. Forest, S. L. Obispo Co.

for 4 wheel drive & motorcycle recreation on holidays. Excellent view all directions from Black Mtn., where lookout tower not manned. / We drove then down slope to Pozo Station of U.S. F.S. & talked with men there. John Blake, wildlife man & photographer, absent. ~~Dudee~~ Randy Merrick of USFS said he had seen puma near there (last fall?), and one seen near Cuesta school near San Luis Obispo, also on Avenales Ranch. Reliable?? / We drove up to Hi Mtn. lookout, manned by ♀. She had seen no condors tho knew about them & interested in birds. She said she had seen peregrine falcons, a pair chasing about near lookout. Usual coyote ~~dropp~~ droppings on ridges nearby. / I tried to enlist all these people to watch for pumas & sign, & to report findings. We returned to I. McMillan ranch. Tried to get permission to visit Avenales Ranch from Jim Sinton, but he was away. Ian McM. said foreman (Cliff Hudson) on that ranch had mentioned lions there, & May McM. said foreman & others on ranch carried guns in cars & would doubtless kill lions, though owners (Sintons) opposed this practice.

10 July 1973. Tuesday. With Mike Erwin & Erik K., visited Fernandez Spring area of Nat. Forest (near Camatta Ranch). Earlier in year Mike had heard caterwauling, possibly of pumas, in area and had seen puma tracks. Reliable?? / Most ground poor for tracking; too hard; prepared soft ground needed. / We went through forest past Bethel Ranch, looked for tracks near a small lake, and on to La Panza station where talked w. Ortiz & another USFS guard. The latter said he had worked on Avenales Ranch near Margarita Lake & pumas had been seen there. He said Mangsley, manager of Margarita Lake, ~~had~~ probably knew of other puma sightings. He said puma killed on Cuesta Grade near S.L. Obispo last fall.

Bob Taylor, Game Warden

8580 El Dorado

Atascadero 93422

Tel. 805-466-9379

Journal

10 July 1973. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif

He had also heard of sightings near Figueroa Mtn. & Pine Canyon. We went to Pozo Station. They said John Blake & Harley Griemer of USFS. had gone to Queen Bee - Castle Crags area to look for condors. Don Duggan loaned us USFS. keys to enter Avenales Ranch gate. / We went then to American Canyon camp, in grass-oak area of ranch, left car, & started up trail for top of ridge & Pine Spring area. About 7 miles uphill through chaparral on moderate to steep slopes to ridge. Found coyote droppings, probable bobcat & fox too, & looked for tracks, but no sure puma sign. Deer tracks rare. Came to 100 yd. reservoir before summit; cattle grazing in grass-oak area there. Extensive fields chaparral slopes viewable from trail. Hot & dry at midday. Some cliffs & rocky bed of streams in canyon (occasional pothole pools). Turkey vultures few. Returned to car at American Canyon after 6 p.m. / The Black - Branch - Hi Mtn. area (about 20 mi. x 12 mi.) fairly uniform & representative of chaparral hills for bordered by grassland-oak grazing lands, but presence pumas in numbers still uncertain. / Returned to McM. ranch.

11 July 1973. Departed ranch and drove via Paso Robles & highway 46 to Vineyard Rd. & (5 mi.) out to Mel Hamman place (Jensen rd.). Mel about ready to retire, rather nervous. He said had only seen 2 pumas in all life in region & said only much talk of pumas since the moratorium. / Recently Bergman (tracker - 39 yrs.) had aided capture of puma reported to have killed 4 sheep, newly introduced in area. Bergman thought 2 of these probably killed by dogs. Mel was incensed that he was not properly notified, & by publicity in newspapers about "great hunter" Bergman, who is now barred from San Simeon ranch because

Reliz Canyon - road, gate
Gould has key - in Sycamore Flat area of
Arroyo Seco. Buck Wiley also in that area.

Clarence Hay, Atascadero.
Trapper - scent expert.

Jerry Page P.O. Box 649, Elko, Nev.
Mt. Lion studies - telem.

Jay Bruce - article in Cal. F & G.
Jan 1925 11:1.

Dick Weaver - Sacto. Office F & G.
Info sheet on lion sign.
Cal. - Map - to be in a report - rel. densities.

Sam Baker - Porterville
Hounds.

Garry Bogue -
Lindsay Zoo, Walnut Cr.

Journal - (Puma inventory)

11 July 1973. Nr. Paso Robles, S.L.O. Co., Calif.

of his dogs bothering stock. (Dan McM. had talked w. Bergman on telephone. He said puma quickly cornered by a corral, where poor for tranquilizer shot. Later drove it up oak tree to about 70' up. First tranquilizer shot missed (by ~~Sitman sp~~ Larry Sitton ?) of Cambria; man had to go for another syringe, so puma 6 hrs. in tree. Second shot successful but lion fell across limb & stayed there. Hunter then had to shoot off limb to lower the animal, which was taken to near Placerville (S. of Emigrant Gap & released, w. radio collar). Mel not sure there were pumas on Avenales Ranch. His wife said to be strong conservationist. | We drove on over 46 to Cambria & visited Larry Sitton, currently on Andover Rd. in Military Circle area. He said they had found tracks of at least 5 lions in about 10 sq. miles in Los Burros area of Hunter L. Mil. Res. They planned study area from Nacimiento - Ferguson road S. to - de la Cruz creek, north of San Simeon. He said that Steve Matthes of Eureka (F & Wildl. S.) had been in field with them to show sign, especially in area Reliz - Vaqueros canyon S.W. of Greenfield. Mathes had had scheme of droppings, scrapes, & Sitton had copies. We looked over maps of the 6 study areas proposed by Fish & Game. Sitton said area S. of Mineral King had highest density pumas in Sierras. Also that numbers reported in Hoopa Indian area (or ~~Salmont~~ Salmon Pk. area ?). | We drove up coast & to Berkeley.

~~18~~ 19 July 1973 Thurs. To Weaverville area, Trinity Co., Calif.

with Erik Koford, departed in my pickup at 11 a.m. for survey of NW study areas. Drove via Redding, thence W. to ~~Weaverville~~ Lewiston. There visited Tim Burton, Calif. F. & G. man who has been working on black bears for a year in area.

For info:

Tim Burton -
308 2nd. Av, ~~Lewis~~ Lewiston
(area beh. post off. ↵

Don Foster - Redding 241-6093

Flip Arbuckle
Andy Silva
Dave Ruiz } weaverville
game warden

Jim McKnight - houndsm. - cat info
Alps Coffee Shop

~~Ang~~ Andy Burgess, Zenia (nr. Covelo) - hunter
95495

Cleo (?) Peyton - m. Helena (w. of Wvrville).

Bruce van Zee - Hayfork, USFS.

Trin. Center - game warden; old timer
- Larry Riley, hunter.

Anas? - New River, nr. Salyer.

Dave Garber - USFS Eureka
766 + E
707 - 442 - 1721. (wildlife - 6 Rivers)

Michael Gillam, PO Box 321, Orleans 95556
Mullins - Orleans - dogs, hunts; son USFS.

Journal - puma

~~18~~ 9 July 1973 Lewiston, Trinity Co., Calif.

He suggested Don Foster, retired F.& G. trapper in area, for info on puma occurrence. He also suggested various men in Weaverville, especially Jim McKnight, Alps Coffee Shop, a hound hunter; took 5 lions in Grunnison Gap area. Suggested Andy Burgess in Zenia, Mendocino Co., for info. He said also reports from Salmon Mtns., & recently near mouth Coffee Creek. Tim found kill on road, winter, to SW of Lewiston. He recommended area between Trinity & Shasta lakes for puma study; many roads, few people. | Snow in mts. from Nov. on, sometimes lasts for days; good tracking. Many ~~hunt~~ hounds-men come to area from S. Calif. to hunt (bears mostly). He mentioned several other places in area where pumas seen. Two other F.& G. men were with Burton, apparently involved in bear work. (Others at fish hatchery by Lewiston dam.) Many campers & fishermen in this area & near Weaverville now. Many hunters in deer (Sept.) & Bear ~~seas~~ seasons.

| 20 July 1973 To N. Humboldt Co.

| Drove on W. to Willow Creek & talked w. people at Ranger Sta. Several pumas taken in areas around Salyer & Hawkins Bar in past, & ~~track~~ track reported recently SW of Gray Falls. Recommended Mr. Dave Garber at Eureka office for wildlife info. Drove on N. up Klamath River to Orleans R.S. Then took road for Orleans Mtn. Lookout. Rough dirt road up, increasingly steep. Trees: white fir, red fir, Doug. fir, mtn. hemlock. Shrubs - manzanita, prunus, quercus, cercocarpus. Many rock outcrops. Peak 6192 ft. View from Mt. Shasta to Pacific Ocean, tho somewhat smoky today. Generally steep coniferous forest, mostly Douglas fir. Ridge from here to Thompson Peak, where some large snow-ice patches. Lookout Jerry Broyles suggested local hunters for information, & Dave Garber. Walked about for 2 hrs., but found no puma sign. Deer tracks few.

Info - Marble Mtns. & region

Nels McBroom, USFS.

Trail Boss - Sawyer's Bar. Former hunter.

Journal - puma

20
~~19~~ July 1973 Nr. Orleans, Humboldt Co., Calif.

Some Eutamias & Citellus, too few for good puma food supply. Departed 5 p.m. & descended to Red Cap Cr., on Shelton Butte Rd. Rainbow trout to 9" in clear rocky stream about 20' wide.

21 July 1973. Saturday. Drove to Orleans (8 mi.). Thence to Somes Bar (USFS closed), then toward Forks of Salmon. Slopes steep, mostly Doug. fir. Stopped at Wooley Cr, clear & rocky; rounded granite boulders (small rainbow trout). Then on narrow winding road up Salmon R. Turned off to Nordheimer Cr. Road thru small cattle pastures & gold mining claims; ended near Hammel Cr. (washed out in 1964). Local miner said puma took a tame deer nearby last winter. Damp shady canyons - ferns, madrones, maples, dogwood, hazelnut, large Doug. fir, live oak trees some slopes. Deer tracks, bear scats, racoon (?) droppings. We walked up old road. Trout to 7" in tiny Hammel Cr. (slate rock bed). Walked to Ocker Claim, about 3 miles in all. Ground poor for tracks; too many leaves. Occas. rock outcrops. Saw one Crotalus (said to be many here this yr.). Eric saw a black bear nr. Hammel Cr., & a ruffed grouse (I found tail feather). In H. Creek, we saw large larval salamander (Dicamptodon ?) on boulder in pool, 6' down. Soaring birds rare. Saw 3 crows. Nordheimer Cr. clear, about 20' wide, w. trout to 8". Drove to Fks. of Salmon; a few stores, 1 gas pumps, front fire station. Road to Salmon Summit, near Salmon Mtn. Fine undeveloped region but little road access to mt. slopes. Talked w. USFS man (resembling Eddie Albert). He recommended N. McBroom at Sawyer's Bar for info. Said fewer ~~trout~~ in Salmon R. since floods of 1964. Said rare puma reports now. Salmon Mtn. may be good area to find. Black bears fairly common - some come w. dogs to run them. Then on up Salmon & over pass. True firs, incense cedars,

Journal - puma

21 July 1973 S. H. Siskiyou Co.

ponderosa pines (more on Callahan side?). Forest dwindled as descended to Callahan, pleasant small town on Scott R. We drove S. toward Trinity Lake thru low mtns., rather dry, mostly ponderosa pines, incense cedar. Coffee Creek: at USFS station, & told us that her husband had twice seen puma cubs, once near Trinity Center & once near E. Fork Trinity, in recent years. We drove out Coffee Creek rd about 20 miles to Big Flat, campground in broad bottom & takeoff point for travel in Shasta-Trinity Primitive Area. Many campers there. We started (at 2030). on Caribou Lakes trail (10 mi.). Up fairly steep slopes, mainly ~~doo~~ Doug. fir, white fir, ponderosa pine, & open brushfields. Hiked to about 2200. No bear or lion sign on trail, but many human & horse tracks on it.

22 July 1973. Sunday. Continued on trail, arriving Caribou Lakes about 0930. Steep slopes; white fir, red fir mostly. But open granite & other rock slopes around Caribou, a glacial basin, & some spots of snow 50 yds. or + across. Fair tracking surface on parts of trail. Occasional dog (domestic?) tracks, possibly coyote (hard now). No large carnivore droppings tho bears said to raid camps here. Fine view of Sawtooth Ridge & Thompson Pk. / Lakes clear. No fish in Snowslide. About 20 campers in area. In upper lake, largest, son took several brook trout to 10". Some clouding started about 2 p.m. Some Mtn. Hemlock (?) on slopes, & small white pines. Manzanita shrubs. Occasional deer tracks. / about 1730, an osprey flew over lake, stooped & took a fish, perched atop shoreline snag. Later another catch. / We departed from Caribou L. & walked to head of pass to SE; on crest in 3/4 hr. Then down steep Stuart Cr. side, eventually hitting trail down. Many

Trinity Center –

Larry Riley – seen

Harry Corson – hunter; not seen

Journal - Puma

22 July 1973. Stuart Cr., Trinity Co., Calif.
switchbacks in brush. up Stuart Cr. to Emerald L. Wetter w. willows in bottom + fair tracking ground. Erik saw possible fisher (or marten) on trail in damp area. Many human + some dog tracks. Patches conifers. Tiger lilies. Emerald a long granite basin lake. Trout caught were small, large headed, brookies. Poor nutrition? Stone dam at foot lake, but above water line. Arrived about 2030 + camped. No mosquitoes. Cool but not frosty.
23 July 1973. Walked upstream to Sapphire Lake, larger w. rockier shores, but both brook + rainbow trout, in fair condition (better than Emerald) tho mostly 6-7", perhaps to 9." Saw occasional chipmunks. At ft. of lake, a dead and dried (dermestids working) bear cub, perhaps 10 lbs. alive. Skull about 6" long. On rock 4' above present water line. Departed 1100 + returned to foot Emerald L. Then climbed rockslide to N. to return to Caribou L. Arrived ridge 1300. On way up saw about 3 Citellus lateralis. One carried a 3" long young in mouth. No signs carnivores or deer. Clear, warm, dry day. Had to cross second ridge; additional hour of climb. Then descended to Caribou L. Rested there. Then walked to Brown's Meadow and camped at 2130.
24 July 1973. Walked to Big Flat + car. Drove down Coffee Cr. Talked with guard at USFS station. Then drove S. to Trinity Center. There visited Larry Riley, hunting guide. He had several dogs. Mostly guided bear hunters. About 35 yrs. old, formerly of Arkansas. He thought Slate Mtn. area now good for pumas, as deer high in winter. He said last winter saw many tracks near old Deadwood Rd., E. of Lewiston. Also mentioned Jessop Gulch for winter sign. Also

Francis Keeler
former State Hunter, Redding
Killed 200

(works Shasta Co.
dog pound?)

Marion Soisert (sp.?)
Happy Camp
Klamath R. (Indian Cr.)

Dr. Fletcher Hoyt - Biology
C.O.S.
Weed

Mt. Shasta

Journal

24 July 1973 Trinity Co., Calif.

Bowerman Ridge. Reported seen near Panther Pk., to N. Deer – move seasonally – those E. of Trinity alps go W. when cold comes, & those around Slate Mtn. go S. to area E. of Lewiston. Some "trapped" in pocket of Bowerman Ridge. He said that Jim McKnight (Weaverville) trailed a puma from near Weber Flat (Stuart Fk.) to near Dedrick (Canyon Cr.) over 3 days. Recommended the two McKnights for puma info. along Buckeye Ridge (NE of Weaverville) – found about 5 lion kills in one day in winter, Larry said. Puma also reported near Rush Cr. Campground. Deer Come down Montgomery Ridge. Larry also suggested former state hunter Francis Keeler, Redding, for puma info; said to have killed 200. In Siskiyou Co., Indian Cr., near Happy Camp, Marion Socset (sp.?), an Indian, was experienced hunter. Larry showed us his dogs & guns. Apparently hoped to get guide work. Perhaps exaggerated somewhat his reports but no errors detected. | We then went to N. end of Trinity Lake and took road to area Nelson Creek, thence up 36N23 to Slate Mtn. On way, closed forest, mostly Doug. fir, P. Pine, I. Cedar, white fir, black oak bottoms, hazelnut shrubs. No traffic. Lookout 5520'. View to corner of Shasta Lake, to Sugarloaf LO, & NW to Bonanza LO. On Mt. Shasta R. district. Lookout knew area poorly so little help. Suggested Mr. Hoyt, COS, weed, Mt. Shasta mountaineer, for possible info. Lookout & wife had heard of no pumas in area. They had guns & did a lot of shooting there. | Camped at Fool's Gulch Camp. Mosquitoes.

25 July 1973. Morning, chickarees calling; heard at least 4 in different directions. One cutting down green sugar pine cones.

Bob? Peyton F&G
Mt Shasta, hatchery
Info.?

Journal - puma

25 July 1973. Nr. Slate Mtn., Trinity Co., Calif.

I had put out ~~trout~~ pieces near dust in road in eve, but no tracks there by morning. Many low spots on roads here had deep red dust, good for tracks. Chinquapin bushes w. acorns. / We looked (in car) for Slate Cr. Rd. but ended at Sanford Cr. Clear stream, Mtn. Quail & chicks; tiger lilies. Back to road & drove via Hell Cr., Damnation Cr., Sanford Pass to Slate Creek. Several people around Clear Cr. Camp, otherwise no traffic. From S. Pass, road descended steeply to E. N. Fork of Slate Creek clear water, good flow about 5 yds. wide, rock & boulder bed; rainbow trout to 9," but mostly 6" or less. Also looked at S. Fork, more closed & woodsy. Much evidence fishermen had been in area. On down to highway 5, then N. to Dunsmuir. / We saw about 5 grps. Mtn. Quail in vehs. around Slate Mtn., with up to 10 chicks, some barely flying. Also a few deer on roads.

26 July 1973. River somewhat murky & only small ~~trout detected~~. We drove to Mt. Shasta. Visited fish hatchery, then Ranger Sta. There talked mostly w. Bob Gray. About July of 1968, he was near Slate Mtn. L.O. when he jumped a puma in brush at close range. It stopped about 50' ~~distant~~ & looked at him. Gray walked on & soon saw another; one larger than other. These two followed him for 1/2 hr. over about 1/2 mile, to Budweiser Gap area, where Gray met another man. The ♀ secretary, who had lived in McCloud area 8 yrs., said one recently reported in Willow Cr. area on road 5. Gray said that on Bald Mtn., same area, many scratchings & tracks puma seen when building jeep road there. Also about 3 weeks ago, one seen in old burn (1959?) at head Boulder Cr., W. of Castella. Someone said one came to coyote calls on Second Ridge,

Journal - puma

~~26~~ 27 July 1973 Friday ~~Dunsmuir~~ N. Shasta Co., Calif.

E. of Castella. about 1967, a lookout there shot & wounded a [talked w. her mid 1975] puma; a guard came & finished it off. The lookout ♀ & hide still there. They also said one seen at close range near Hazel Cr. about 1965. Gray thinks most pumas in Mills Cr.-Bald Mtn. area S. of McCloud. / Hot day. We drove S. via Redding to Berkeley.

Emigrant Basin - hike & fish trip; look for Felis c. sign

Aug. 2, 1973 There. With Sue, Eric, & Julie P.; drove via Sonora Pass to Leavitt Lake, about 200 mi. from Berkeley. Left lake 1 p.m. Usual hard up climb. Fishing in High Emigrant L. by 5:30 p.m. Little sign of deer, tracks rare, or carnivores. Took fine 12" rainbow. Camped at upper Grizzly Meadow lake. Eric took 8" rainbow. Overcast, threatening to rain. Water high. Many flowers now & meadows green, soft; recently muddy. Found good large coyote scat by Grizzly L.

3 Aug. 1973. No rain night. Hiked to Bond Pass. Many spectacular flowers. Some deer tracks. Then to Dorothy Lake (2 hrs. from start). Only one camper there. No fishing success. Water clear but high. Departed 1 p.m. about 6 more people arriving. Walked down Jack Main Canyon on trail to Grace Mdw. Caught several 7" rainbows in stream on flies; dark colored fish.

Marmots - saw about 5 in area N. of Bond Pass, including 1/3 grown young. Also many Belding squirrels (50±), including fuzzy young, chipmunks (small, grayish), & g. mantled gr. squirrels (fewer). Robins, occasional nutcracker (few). A few purple finches. A ~~seagull~~ gull on Dorothy Lake. At hd. of Gr. Mdw. lake last eve, at dusk a prairie? falcon flew in & landed in notch of cliff. We saw one in general area about 2 yrs. ago. Yesterday, several rosy finches on talus near highest ridge on trail, about 10,700'. Camped near foot of Grace meadows. Many small tiger lilies now.

Journal

4 August 1973 N. Yosemite area. Calif.

many flowers, also mariposa lilies, various lupines, red & yellow paint-brush, columbine. In higher country, patches snow but less than last year, same month. Some mosquitoes now - locally bothersome. Saw perhaps 2 Buteos all day yesterday. / Left 0800. Saw ♂ deer in velvet. Light rain - thunder, heavier, waited it out. Then on down trail to Tilden Lake branch & to Tilden Lake (I had camped here w. Mary in 1947, with brother Hugh in 1935 - at last time, could easily see many trout in still water of S W end of lake; none today, the surroundings unchanged tho more traveled.) Belding sq, chipmunks, several mule deer - too tame; had to drive them out of camp. / Overcast day, light sprinkle. Occasional coyote scat or track. Fished 2-3 hrs. Then about 4:30 p.m. took 4 rainbows to 12" in ½ hr. on flies, from one point on E shore. Other strikes too, & Dick landed one 8". Said to be planted golden trout here. At least 2 other parties camped near Tilden. Spectacular views of Sawtooth Crest & Tower Peak up canyon. We walked up E. side lake. Much wet grass near shore. Occasional old bear scat. Camped. Sky cleared again.

5 August 1973. Dick saw a bear 100 yds. from camp. Left 0800 & walked slowly up clear stream to Mary Lake - clear rock bottom, but trout 7" in outlet; some grassy shores (similar to Lost Lake but larger). Camping evidence, but apparently little visited. Then hiked up ridge between Kayes Pk. + Sawtooth Crest, to about 10300', through grassy ledges, low cliffs, granite boulders; not difficult. Descended into canyon on N. side, crossed it, & worked N W. and down to Falls Creek; no difficulty. Occasionally saw a deer or droppings. Carnivore sign rare. / We walked on trail then over Bond Pass + to Grizzly Mdw.

Koford

Journal - Emigrant Basin / Yosemite trip

5 August 1973 High Emigrant Lake, Tuolumne Co, Calif.

Rain, at times hard. Waited under trees. Fog low over area & clearing slow & partial. Walked to High Emigrant lake about 6 p.m. One grp. camped there. Fished 1/2 hr. in cold wind; no results. Camped in shelter of rocks. Overcast night w. occasional drops. / Heard no coyotes or owls on any night. Looked constantly for puma sign but saw none.

To Berkeley

6 August 1973. Partly overcast. Fished 1/2 hr. & Cole took 10" rainbow from lake. Hiked then, leaving 0900 N. over crest to Leavitt Lake, arriving 1230 p.m. Drove then via Sonora Pass back to Berkeley.

14 August 1973 Tues.
97256 (with Sue K.) 97500

Departed 2 p.m. Drove via Madera to Dinkey Creek in Sierra National Forest, passing near Millerton Lake, Shaver Lake. Road through oak woodland, then up through thick brush with rock outcrops (good cat cover), then into conifers. Logging trucks w. large logs. Trees mixed conifers; P. pine, sugar pine, inc. cedar. Hundreds of campers in Dinkey Creek area (USFS station nearby). Shaver Lake area well settled, small town. Area perhaps like Lake Tahoe area 30 yrs. ago.

15 August 1973. Clear night. Heard 1-2 coyotes. Brief visit at Ranger Station. Then drove to Wishon Reservoir, 16 mi. Many logging trucks. Elevation to about 6900 ft. Red fir, lodgepole pine, ponderosa p. McKinley Grove of redwoods (~~Sequoia~~ Sequoiadendron). / Wishon Reservoir in a granite basin; conifers & bare rock surrounding hills. Crossed dam and drove on good asphalt road 7 mi. to end in red fir zone. Trailhead at end (Little Rancheria Cr.), another about 3 mi. from dam (Woodchuck). More logging trucks. / Returned to Dinkey Creek. Guard there (Jones) said puma rarely seen. Blue Canyon perhaps best area to [illegible]. Said saw one once only. Took road w. to Summit Meadow & hiked up

Potential informants: —

Bill Stuart   Dept. F+G
Fresno   291-3382 Res.
E Hampton Way
(Clovis Av. area nr. Tarpey Vill.; nr. Minnewawa St., N. side - carved door)

Bill Farschon - Fresno F+G off. Lives Sanger. (Kings Canyon ave.)

Glen Overstreet - Fresno or Clovis

Mel Clover - E. of Clovis (Avocado Lake)

Larry Weber - F+G - Fresno

Bennig?
Cunningham (?) - F&WL Trapper -
Fed. Bldg. - Has trapped region (see Bill Stuart).

Mike Michaels -   Caught puma for dept.
1200 9 E. Shaw   (outlaw type?)
Clovis. 93612
209 291-3793

Journal - (Sierra N.F.)

15 August 1973. Fresno Co., Calif.

trail about 3 mi. to Bald Mtn. L.O, 7832: Woman lookout, here 2 years, said few deer, no bears or lion seen, but previous lookout reported two pumas (where?). Most mt. tops gray granite & few trees. Back to main road about 3 p.m. Good view from Bald Mtn. (toward [illegible] to N.). To Shaver Lake settlement; several resorts near lake, many boats. Returned to Fish & Game camp area at Pollard Flat (nr. Markwood Mdw. - road 200 yds. W. of Summit Cr., about 6 mi. from Shaver Lake turnoff). / There talked w. Hal Salwasser, student of ASL working for F&G on N. Kings deer project. He said sightings or tracks indicated at least 5 pumas in deer study area. In 1972, a sighting reported in Crown trailhead area. This year, Bill ~~Stewart~~ Stewart found puma scat near there (Hal gave it to me) = dog?. Retired trapper Bill Farchon (sp?) says puma tracks at Barnes Mtn., & that he could easily trap it. One reported near Shaver Lake (Bertram saw tracks near dump, a mile W. of Pollard Flat). Another report near Trimmer. Hal thinks mostly at lower elevations, 2-3000's ft., N. of Pine Flat reservoir. Probably also on spurs to S. of Rodgers Ridge. / Bertram, head of deer project, suggested others for local puma info. Said sign at Nutmeg Cr. (Haslett Basin), Barnes Mtn., Balch Camp (one radio-collared was there), E. of Secata Ridge (1971). Rodgers Ridge - recent track about 5000'. /

16 August 1973. Talked w. Bertram and Ron Rempel about deer, puma sign. Bertram hospitable about helping w. puma studies; offered ride on plane to track deer. / 1030 departed to explore road to S. Drove to Fence Mdw., occas. stopping to look for tracks in road dust. Few deer, some canid tracks. Visited Fence Mdw. L.O in P. pine, sugar pine, inc. cedar, Black oak zone. Couple there had no info on pumas in area + said few deer. Edge of a recent controlled

Ron [Rempel] (re plane fl.)
Fresno 227-5685, eves.

Bertram - Fresno
224-1150

Ft 6 - 1234 E. Shaw
222-3761
↑?

Journal

16 August 1973 Fresno Co., Calif.

brown nearby. Continued to crossing of Secata Ridge, 3680'. Traverse 2 miles oaks, grass, blue oak, brush. Hot day at low elev. / On road met USFS car with Ed Schneegas, Bob Gale (wildl. mgr on Sierra NF). Down to Nutmeg Cr. 2480' in oak-buckeye zone. Then via Big Creek & Duff Camps, both w. clear running stream. On up via old Brady mill, on dirt road, much red dust. Tracks large dog, probably of houndsmen. At Pollard Flat about 4 p.m. / with Hal S. to Kaiser Cr. above Crown Valley trail head, to fish. Beautiful clear stream w. rock pools. Took small browns at first. Then above falls, rainbows to 11". Brushy & bouldery at creek sides, making access to anglers somewhat difficult. On way back to Pollard Fl. in car, Hal used spotlight to search for deer.

Car sp. to. 10 mi. (estimated 5 on scale)

17 August 1973. Again talked w. Bertram. He said yesterday saw (two (my)) tracks on Patterson Mtn., adult & smaller. larger ~~100~~ 103 x 90 mm.; smaller (too small) 63 x 53, at two points. (S. side P. Mtn., nr. Rose Mdw. Also nr. Indian Rock). / Drove to Shaver Lake, then N. on #168 to E. and ~~Hunt~~ Huntington L. On over Kaiser Pass, over 9000', & to High Sierra R.S. Guards there said no pumas reported in area. Then drove to foot Lake Edison, then back to Lake Florence. Out Jackass Mdws. road about 2 mi. (Lv. Hooper dir. dam 1615). Left car. Hiked up slope to E, arriving Chamberlain lake about 1930. Saw 10" golden (?) trout at edge lake. In granite bowl at base cliffy peaks to S., Mt. Hooper to W. E.

Sat.

18 August 1973. ~~Cl~~ Climbed talus slopes of ridge & ascended ridge to top of Mt. Hooper, where good view of other lakes and Sierra crest. Descended rock jumble to E.; then north to foot of Rose Lake. Patches snow on slopes. Saw 10+ rosy finches in area, ~~als~~ some high on Mt. Hooper. Atop, 2 nutcrackers seen. Saw 2 pikas in

Bill Wingle - Shaver L. area 693-3260. Edison Co.?

For info (Big Cr. Ranger recommended).

Musick mtn. - Ely mtn. area.

Also - Walt Waldon, Willow Camp (1 mi. E. of H. Lake) knows man in Jose Basin, NW of Shaver, who knows area & lions.

Journal - Sierra N.F.

18 August 1973. To Rose Lake, Fresno Co., Calif.
bottom of draw, among small boulders by grass + snow runoff water.
Rose Lake had golden trout + rainbows, to 8" but mostly smaller.
19 August 1973. Sunday. Hiked west over ridge, cross-country, to Hooper Lake. Three fishermen there, having come by horseback. Said large fish in lake but we saw none. Small lake, conifers edge, granite basin. At foot lake found apparent coyote dropping, which saved; much hair (marmot?). / Walked down to Harvey L., larger; then Gordon L., where saw several golden? trout to ~~9"~~ 10" in shallows. Then cross country down to Hooper Cr., dam, & car. About 3 hrs. down including ½ hr. lunch stops. Drove to Florence Lake, where dozens of cars parked at trailhead. Then back to ~~Ha~~ Kaiser Pass and ~~camed~~ camped near Vista Point (micro wave sta.). Saw ravens, bluebirds. Good view Lake Edison region. ~~Sa~~ Citellus lateralis in rocks. Mostly lodgepole pine; occas. sugar or w. white pine.
20 August 1973.
Found ~~only dog tracks~~ no puma tracks on road for ¼ mile to SE. / Drove along N. shore of Huntington Lake, where many cabins, resorts, campers, + down to Big Creek R.S. There ~~talked~~ talked w. USFS man who showed me map + list of occurrence fur-bearers, including puma. 1963-66, one reptd. near Flume Pk., one Big Creek, 1 nr. Horse Thief Cr. None reported this year yet. USFS man said puma seen trail + road in area Aspen Mdw. + Horsethief Cr. (by him?). Musick Mtn. - reported in winter. He found further list: Cub 6/20/73, about 3 mi. out on Stump Cr. Rd. (to N.). Said May '73 sighting (?) nr. Camp Cr., same road. / We drove out Stump Cr. - Sample Mdw. road 6 mi. Saw spotted fawn w. doe. Mixed conifers: p. pine, s. pine, inc. cedar, much manzanita. Slope to W. down to S.J. River (winter range of deer herd). Ranger (?) said just returned from several days pack trip in area Red Mtn. to Florence Lake + saw little

Journal

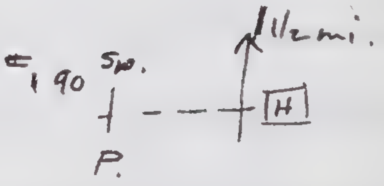
~~19~~ 20 August 1973. Tulare Co, Calif.

sign of deer, none of puma. We drove back to #168 and down toward valley, then S. through Sanger (grapes, peaches) to Kingsburg, Visalia. Then through Yokohl Valley, still sparsely inhabited + seemingly good condor country. Heading toward Springville Then over low range where saw a large bobcat in oak woodland near Oak Leaf Farms. Up through gradually changing vegetation - blue oak, black oak, chinquapin, p. pine, inc. cedar, red fir, bigtree. At lower levels, 2000; to north much heavy brush on rocky slopes; much chamise. Perhaps deer winter range. Camped in Mt. Home State Forest among bigtrees.

20 Aug. Addenda 20 August. Visited Moses Mtn Lookout. Lady LO said one killed about 1 mile E. a few years ago. She said saw kind of tracks on road 200 yds. W. of lookout. We looked there and found tracks, puma, 100 - ~~100~~ 110 mm wide, on road and down it for 5 yds. at least. Also mtn. quail tracks. Red fir - p. pine zone.

21 August 1973. Drove on up past Centennial Stump to Shake Camp pack station. Tulare Co. Mt. Home S.F. area. Bass, Clark —?, there 20+ yrs., said pumas rare in area - saw 4-5 total. Some years none, nor tracks. Usually there until October. Deep snow winter. Clark recommended Bill Dye of Springville as good source of information - hunted lions for state. Visited Middle Fork of Tule at end road and took a few rainbows in clear rocky stream. Then drove down to Springville via Balch Park, a steeper road than ascended. Good tracking dust at sides many areas. Stopped at Ranger Sta. of Tule R. district en route to Porterville. Official said saw puma once while hunting deer east of Springville in lower country. He thought an employee had seen pumas

Wm. B Richardson (off 190 nr. st. Hosp.)
27349 Av. 138



Baker, Sam E
1504 S. Kessing
Porterville 784-0288.

Dick Burns – Sequoia N.P. – Ranger Nat.
Cousin of Wm. Richardson

8/22 am. 0100 mileage 98290

Journal

21 August 1973. Tulare Co., Calif.

sign near Dunnigan Pk. I went to USFS headquarters of the Sequoia forest in Porterville & talked w. their ~~wieldlife~~ wildlife man, (G. Hechtner) who knew of no specific occurrences & thought that houndsmen might be best source of info. He was also vague about deer numbers & movements, etc. / We also drove up S. Fork of Middle Fork of Tule to Camp Nelson, heavily populated by summer residents & campers. / Visited Wm. B. Richardson at home, 1½ mi. E. of State Hospital. Raised in area; former MVZ mammalogist. Now retired. He thought few pumas in region. We talked old times, & of my visits to same house in 1940's when his father Walter R. owned it. In all, no encouragement for Sequoia N.F. as study area. / Returned to Berkeley, arriving 0100 22 August

5 ~~Aug~~ Sept. 1973. Left Berkeley noon. Drove via 101 to King City, where called at Ranger Sta. (ranger & resource man out). Then to Jolon, arriving too late to catch M. Stroud. Then to Bradley, Paso Robles, Shandon, & McM. Ranch. Sam away in mts. Mike Erwin temporarily at Spring Ranch. Recent light rain showers.

6 Sept. 1973. Drove to Nat. Forest, Navajo Camp, Pozo area, & to Avenales Ranch. On way called on Jack Sinton at feedlot, got permission to enter Avenales. First gate open, for hunters going to American Canyon camp. Then locked. At Avenales hqtrs. talked an hour with Cliff Hudson, foreman there 9 years. One eye about gone & slightly crippled. He was friendly, talkative. Showed me picked up antlers of large size w. pride. Thought few deer because of many bobcats, coyotes. He had seen tracks lions several places, and other sightings reported during last few years, nearly all in the low country (oak-grassland mainly; chaparral higher). There was new P.G. & E road along high tension power line, extending to

			Odom.
5	Lv.	Berk	98318
		HLMR	503
		PasoR	52
		Gillis Cyn	77
		McM	82
6		Lv. McM	84
		Sunny[illegible] Rd.	620
		enter Gate, Avendes	32
		Lv gate	667
		McM.	707
7		Queen Bee -	
		Lv Pine M. gate	738
		McM	76

8 99029 - (711 mi, trip).
(252 McM. house → home)

King City - Ranger Sta., S. Mildred

Bob Addison
Resource Forester

Dick Harrell
Distr. Ranger

(both out 5 Sept.)

Journal

6 Sept. 1973 — Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co.

Carrizo Plains over hills to E. Many other roads. Microwave Sta. (Pilitas area) road had been oiled, making it poor for tracks. (His wife + another local man added reports of puma sightings + tracks. Unfortunately I know too little of local place names to locate them, but some near headquarters.) One recent report tracks adult + smaller. Cliff said one had often used road to Branch Mtn., before locked gate. So I decided to explore that area. Got lost on wrong roads several times but did reach that gate (said 4 mi. more to Lookout on Branch Mtn.) Saw bobcat tracks on road. Found several old droppings, some prob. bobcat, others fox. No sure coyote tracks. I also took the power line road to E, zigzagging among towers, for 4 mi.

K1-Kodachrome → Branch Mtn.

Not oiled, + many parts good for tracking. Both microwave sta. (= Pilitas) + the lookout visible at times. Saw a few does + yearlings, no bucks. Hunting on ranch under permit (friends, employees). Jim Sexton is said not to permit killing coyotes, bobcats. Cliff again hospitable on my leaving; offered horses, + to accompany me. I returned to McMillan Ranch (40 mi. from Avenales Gate). May McM. said that son driving saw puma on Spring Ranch (McM. Canyon) several years ago.

c-10

7 September 1973. Last eve, phoned L. Sitton in Cambria. He said that San Diego State group recently spent 4 days with him. He said only pumas radio collared were 2 on depredations, both released elsewhere. He said study area from SLO county line (on S.) to Ferguson rd. Thought 13 or + pumas there in about 200 sq. mi. I offered to accompany him early October. / Visited Jim Sexton + arranged for field work on Avenales Ranch in October. Friendly + hospitable to idea. Said would fire Cliff if he shot lions there. Offered horses, bed, help of riders. Ranch about 50 000 a. including gov't. lands used, leased but only 15 000 owned by Sextons. / Then drove via La Panza Sta.

Journal

7 September 1973 San Luis Obispo Co. ~~Santa~~ Calif.

to Queen Bee camp (1 family) and on to locked gate on Pine Mtn. Rd. Sign said 6 mi. to Pine Spr. camp; 4 w-d road all the way. Walked to east, about 1½ mi., looking for lion sign. Found scats fox, also probable coyote & bobcat, one of bear, but none of puma. Fine views of conglomerate rock outcrops at head of draws. Continued on S. on this jeep trail, about 2¼ hrs. from start, to overlook at head of Beartrap canyon. Saw no condors or eagles, but saw two apparent peregrine falcons chasing each other above windy crest. Heavily spotted below; mustache clear, barred tail w. fine white tips. About 1:30, started down. Saw fairly sure coyote scats, 3/4" diam. One small scat, 1½", on a double scratch: coyote or bobcat? Good road for looking for puma sign, though much of ground too hard or rocky for tracks. Saw no deer, but occasional tracks. Returned to McM. ranch via #58 and Canyon Ranch. Clear, mod. E. wind, hot midday. Cholame

K² → Blackcaps fm. Beartrap.

8 September 1973. Saturday. Visited with Clem McMillan. He has hunted much, sat long waiting in puma country, yet never seen a puma. He said he saw tracks near top of Table (Castle) Mtn. on a couple of occasions. A friend with Cb said he heard one at night near Pine Spring (Machesna Mtn.) / Yesterday afternoon, I saw 2 golden eagles in tree by road in the Avenal Wildlife area, near site old pine tree nest. / Drove to Berkeley via highway 5, arriving 7 p.m. / Mail included several copies of puma sightings, sent by Dept. Fish & Game.

11 September 1973. To Humboldt Co.
Unofficial trip –
Departed w. Rolf & Susanne in Chev pickup, about 0930 via St. Helena to Hopland Field Station. There talked w. Bill Longhurst, Guy Connolly,

Journal

11 September 1973 Hopland F. Sta., Mendocino Co.

Don Torell, Milt Jones. There had been a report of puma sighting on the station near Cow Mtn. Deer season - public hunting - over 40 bucks taken so far this season. / We viewed several coyotes in pens. Urine being collected for analysis by USDA lab, Albany; no specific object but may lead to isolating coyote attractants. Over 100 sheep a year taken by coyotes on F.S., said Longhurst & Torell. Latter said coyote usually bites windpipe & strangles, or bites nose & nostrils. / Continued on to Eureka, Arcata, & inland to near Willow Creek where camped near bay tree. Humboldt Co.

12 September 1973. Drove on thru Hoopa reservation to Weitchpec, then up Klamath to Orleans. Report there through Mike Gillam (at R. Sta.) that ♀ puma w. 2 cubs took chickens at Knudsen place on Ishi Pishi Rd. (ranch on Kl. river). (Fished 11-12 a.m. in Red Cap creek; good catch 6-7" rainbows.) Drove up road to Orleans LO about 4 miles, where met by Carla Koford in Toyota 4 w-d. Lookout, 6184', overlooked area of recent Offield fire to NE. A puma track reported on jeep road 100 m. from lookout a few weeks ago. Walked on this road & vicinity to S. Tracks & droppings coyotes. Fresh bear tracks, medium sized, & large mammal, probably bear, charged downslope in brush near us. Chipmunks and Beechey? ground squirrels near rocks. Deer tracks more numerous than during July visit. Stayed at lookout overnight.

Orleans Mtn. LO

13 Sept. 1973. Thurs. Full moon last night. Heard no coyotes or owls, tho slept outside. Searched red fir forest slopes to W. for 1 hr., finding much bear digging & fresh tracks of cub (50 lbs?) on dusty road. / Descended to Klamath River. Few fishermen today; many yesterday but results poor. Early steelhead run of ½-1 lb. trout. / Visited ranch near mouth of ? (on Klamath R.) Creek. Owner, wife, & girl caretaker recently saw puma at close range near creek, perhaps 1 mi. from house. Owner (from Corona del Mar) said

Nels McBroom
lives in Little N. FK.

Journal

13 Sept. 1973 Nr. Orleans, Humboldt Co.

he had been coming there for 12 years + had seen puma about 3 times. Thought not resident, only occasional. / Returned to Orleans, then took road to Forks of Salmon. Thence on road to Etna via Sawyer's Bar. Largely unpaved winding road. Old small habitations & signs former mining along river. Camped near Little N. Fk. Small trout in it (8' wide, rocky), and briefly hooked one about 11" in main stream (to 20' wide). About 2000'.

14 Sept. 1973. Drove on to Sawyer's Bar (tiny settlement) + talked w. 2 men in Ranger Sta. office. They said few pumas in region. One said heard of tracks near Chafy Gulch, Cecil Point (lookout). Formerly in 6-mile region to NE of Cecilville. Thought mostly S. of Sawyer's Bar area, not Marble Mtns. McBroom, best potential informant, off today. / Drove on through canyon w. clear stream, steep slopes w. mostly Douglas Fir. Ascended to Etna summit where more brushy, open. Saw doe, & Ralf saw legal buck in brushland. Rocky ridges + upper levels to N. of Salmon had poor vegetation (infertile ?). More ponderosa pines on Etna side. Etna town larger than Callahan, to S. down Scott River Valley (old dredgings in bed). Drove S. via Scott Mtn. toward Trinity Lake, thence took Ramshorn (E Trinity) - Castella road; 30 miles. Ascended in open ponderosa pine stands. Some burned zones (sign said 1959) on N. side of Bonanza Kings, + brush fields. Road descended to Mumbo Creek, then up a Trinity R. fork. Took side road near Grey Rocks to Twin Lakes, where camped. Lakes had trout to about 10" (seen). Borders tree lined mostly, but naked rock ridges nearby. Heard coyotes and owl (great horned?) at night. Saw chickaree.

STrem / C-5 / W-1

15 Sept. 1973. Drove on past Whalan guard station (one cabin)

Journal

15 Sept. 1973. (Saturday) To Berkeley, Calif.
and down near Castle Crags to Castella. Then via Redding to Berkeley. ~~This road~~ The Ramshorn (?) road seems a logical north boundary for puma study area in this region. TO S, perhaps Dog Creek road.

26 Sept. 1973. Departed 2 p.m. from Berkeley. Camped at Lodi.

27 Sept. 1973. Drove S. to Merced. Then via highway 140 to Mariposa. Before town, in area oak-grassland-digger pine. Thence E. & S. to Oakhurst, mostly in zone of ponderosa pines. At Oakhurst, visited Range Sta. Talked w. Bill Holland, the Resource Forester, & another uniformed man. Bill said he had given records to Bob Gale (Fresno hqtrs.). Said about 4 puma kills found in upper Miami Cr. area, about 6 mi. N. of Oakhurst, Feb.-April 1972. Also "cats" reported at Thornberry Mtn (5 mi. S.), not specific records. The second man thought rare in red fir zone. Suggested Bert Palmberg, local hunter, for info. Also Carroy (sp.?) Topping, of Topping Ranch, O'Neals area; had hounds. Miami area had pine & cedar, Thornberry also brush. Left description of region. / Drove NE, then S. to Bass Lake. Dull green, pines around shores; drawn down 10' or so, few boats out. Less developed than Shaver or Huntington Lakes. In pickup by road met Eugene Peabody, Game Mgr. from Madera. He told me of a number of sightings animals or tracks: One at Nelson Ranch, about 6 mi. NW. San Joaquin Exp. Range, where ½ grown lion reported to have taken chickens. Also mentioned the Miami Cr. area - kills winter, tracks spring. Archery hunter reported one in Sec. 6 N. of Whiskey Camp (NE of Bass Lake) this year. Near Mammoth Pool Res., seen in winter nr. Mammoth Pool, in summer about 2 yrs. ago in Jackass Valley, near Fuller Buttes. One reported near Ahwahnee recently. Saw one about 4 yrs. ago, winter, ½ grown, on road FH 100 near Castle Pk. (N. of Redinger Lake). He thought more records than several years ago.
I continued on to North Fork; at 1145, essentially personnel gone for the afternoon. Drove on to Auberry; road down to about 1200 ft. at lowest.

9/26	Lv Berk	999/2	
9/27	Lv. Lodi	002	
	Merced	087	
	~~125~~ Marip.	125	
	Oakh.	152	
	N. FK	172	
	Shav. Lk.	207	5500'
	Pollard Fl.	213	3500'
9/28	Lv. Dinkey Cr. rd.	220	
	Bear Cr.	223	
	a Summit 6000'	225	
	Gigantea C.G.	227	

Journal

27 Sept. 1973. Thurs. To Shaver Lake, Fresno Co.

Then eastward on Meadow Lakes - Alder Spr. road. Some apple orchards. Oaks & digger pines to over 3000'; ponderosa by 3500, incense cedar (N. slope) 4500'± Joined road 168, went to Shaver Lake - few people now. Then to the Pollard Flat camp, but gate locked & no one there. So waited by gate.

28 Sept. 1973. Dinkey Cr. area, Sierra N.F., Calif.

Bertram not return, so drove to Dinkey R.S. & inquired; was at Wishon Work Center, working on controlled burn. Started out rd. to Wishon. 3 mi. to Bear Cr., 5800'. About a mile on, a high point, 6000'. I looked over ground. Pond. Pine, Sug. Pine, Inc. Cedar, wh. P, Red F, rocks. No puma sign. Saw 2 Clark Nutcrackers. Found chickaree (Tamiasciurus)-eaten Sug. Pine cones. / Short distance (1 mi.) on, road down to S 200 yds. 50 yds. down, puma tracks, est. 1 day old. ~~75~~ 90 mm across ~~toes~~ toes, about = length. I smoothed ground in 3 spots & baited 1 w. Purina catfood + catnip drops, 1 w. cat fd., 1 w. catnip. This area SP, PP, RF trees, 2' tall scattered brush. 6100'. This about 10 a.m. Calm, clear, 67°F. | .6 mi. on, jeep road ascended hill. I walked up + after about 75 yds. found puma tracks about 75 mm. across toes. Pad 50 wide, some 55. Posterior "bays" deep, like tips 3 fingers. Tracks continued at least 300 yds. up road. Sometimes registered well, again hindfoot 6" ahead. More measured 55 pad 80 toes for front, 50-72 for hind. After 500± yds, some headed down road. All stopped at small rocky dry creekbed. Roadbed mostly about 10% slope. Near for first tracks, I put scent area w. CF-CN (cat food) (catnip) / 1150, pushed on. At road loop to R, part of McKinley picnic area (main part .3 mi. further, on L), 2 possible puma scrapes in pine needles, with heaps at one end. Each clearing about 18" long, 12 wide. No smell or droppings. About 1 mile on, looked in Gigantea campground, which included Sequoiadendron, but no puma sign (no campers). Continued on + took Sawmill Flat Rd. to S., then cut back NE + N on road to Wishon Dam. Last 5 miles on one way level road ("Sidewalk road") cut in granite slope, scattered, very pleasant. Crossed dam (water drawn down only about 2' it appeared). Only 1 boat seen (people gone). On

Margin notes:
Tr: 90 T assumed same as R
Tr: 75 T 50-55 P. F: 55 P 80 T / H: 50 P 72 T
[Dec '75 - never found on later visits]
Stat. car to 2 mi.

H. Basey
Modesto J. C.

Bill Dye
Springville

Les Reed
San Jacinto

Bill Douglas
Kernville

Journal

28 Sept. 1973 Fresno Co. Sierra N.F., Calif.

along fine road about 3 miles (about 6900; then mixed conifers), then S. on dirt road a mile to Crown Valley trailhead. | Prepared for overnite backpack. But Ron C. Bertram + asst. Ron showed up, with Bill ~~Stuart~~ Stewart, to work on a controlled burn of about 100 acres. This hoped to encourage growth brush under red fir. | ~~Stuart~~, about 65, w. F & Game, Fresno. Said to have once been boss of Jay Bruce. He told me of many spots where he ~~thought~~ ~~lat~~ puma sign would be found. Ridge at head Deer Creek ~~drainage~~ a few mi. N. of ~~about~~ Mdw. Providence road net ~~net~~ going S. from ? ~~m~~ Brush Mdw. Road descending to Dinkey Creek from W. side Patterson Mtn. Mid part of Fence Mdw rd, around Nutmeg Glen (+ N & S). Garlic Falls area formerly good. Also ~~Little Short~~ Tehipite Valley, which once yielded several cats to hunters. Mentioned tracks ("offslope" of Spanish Mtn.) = S. slope? near Spanish Lake. Also near Mammoth Pool Reservoir. He picked up presumed droppings at scratch on parking flat at Crown Valley trailhead last May. In winter range, Bruce hunted much S. of Kings River, especially Barton's Flat Resort area and Converse Basin. Bruce hunted McKenzie Ridge often (N. of McK. Sta.). Also mentioned Henness Ridge near Wawona as a Bruce hunting area. Formerly good E. of Three Rivers - Oak Grove to Atwell Milk Ranch ~~Ranch Pk.~~ road, just outside park. As info references: Bill Dye of Springville, Dale Breckenridge (~~Buckingham~~ ?) at Wishon Store now. Harold Basey, Modesto J.C. instructor, who knew about Bruce & pumas in N. Parks. Les Reed - San Jacinto? - 6-7 yrs. at Trout Mdw. & Forks Kern (part w. Bill Dye). - good observer & hunter. Bill Douglas, Cal. F & G, Kernville. ~~Stuart~~ Stewart very friendly. McGregor had told him about me. Offered to accompany me in field. | They set the fire w many torches about 3 p.m., idea being to keep it on ground. | 17~~05~~45, I departed on Crown Valley trail, took Station fork, crossed Station Cr. 1843, arrived at foot of Station Mdw. about 1930 + camped (dark then). Cold, clear, calm. | Time searching, 1 hr. Then dark. On trail. Side from road, about 2 hrs.

Journal (puma)

24 Sept. 1973. Sat. Crown Valley area, Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

No coyotes or owls heard night. 43°F. at 0630. 0725, started out. A few cattle shoulder & corrals in Statum Mdw. Thick short grass. I took trail toward Garlic Mdw. Ascended thru lodgepole pine (LP), red fir, small meadows. Frost on grass at 8500 ft. Saw jeep on a road & hit road 0825, 8600', above Little Spanish Lake. Walked NE on ~~a~~ road. About 4 camps of hunters w. vehicles. Lodgepole zone. Dust road but vehicle tracks, including this a.m. About 1/4 mile beyond one camp, just below foot of a meadow, puma tracks entered side of road — surely made last night. Pad width width 37, 69, 65, 66, 60, 67, 65. ~~Fore~~ Pad 60, toes 80 on one track. One 65-85. One 60-85 (90 long). One 57-95. Length variable & toe tips often faint; heel mark clearest. Going down 5% road. Pace about 24" (RF to RF), register on to 4" ahead. One 60-85 Tracks extended at least 100 yds. Some in center rd. between car tracks. Time 0840, 8500 ft. Area about 1½ mi. S. of Statum Mdw., above W. end Little Sp. Lake (not visible). Toe 2 most advanced. Deep posterior incision. One animal, (~~small~~ big adult?). / See Citellus lateralis out at 8500' (& over 9000'). I hiked up road. Over out 0930 & 5 min. to edge Garlic Mdw., 8700', 100± A of short coarse grass, gentle slope to S. Road (4 wd.) goes E & W (to Rodgers Ridge?). 0945 I started E. on ridgetop toward Spanish Mtn. Red fir, lodgepole p. Soon found bear tracks, about 120 mm across toes. Partial trail on ridge, only 10% or less good for tracks. 1010, hit road from Garlic Mdw., 9100', & then followed it E. Bear tracks, 115 across toes, 160 long. C. lateralis seen to 9300' on ridge. Increasingly granite rocky & open. Several deer hunters but heard no shots. Mostly White Pine, & small 2-needle pine. Three loud motorcycles went E. on road. / 1105, saw Spanish Lake about 1000' below. 1125, end of road, 9500'. 1130, in saddle to NW of Spanish Mtn. Searched pass 15 min.; no puma sign tho obvious crossing & man trails cross here. / 1155, started down to N. 1210, found apparent coyote scats under W Pines near edge meadow; 3 sets, one grey, one black & manzanita berries,

[Inserted above line: Often 68-90 (90 long). 60-83-90.]

[Inserted below line: [not separate fore & hind. Counted as Hp 60mm.] 67-93w-90l. [No photo]]

[Margin: Track (size ad.♂?) ctd: Hp 60]

Courtright Rd

0 ~~start~~

2.3 7900' rd to R (no c-c vehicle sign). RF, same PP

2.8 ~~3.+~~ road to L

3.85 Sht. Hair Cr. 7930'. Short camp turnout to R (x̄), LPP.

3.9 Rds. L + R

4.4 Log rd. L

5.1 log rd L

5.2 " " L

5.4 campsite turnout R, 8500'. Wishon overlook. (High pt.

5.7 Scenic view (wishon + woodchuck area)

6.0 " " , 8300', N.FK. & Le Conte divide

6.5 Camp turnout R - horse corrals.

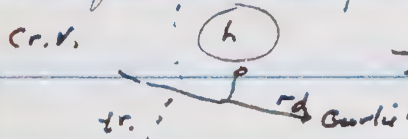
7.0 , 8500'; highest pt on rd.

8.1 ~~8.3~~ atop dam.

Journal

29 Sept. 1973. Nr. Spanish Lake, Sierra N.F.

are whitish & clayey, all within 8' & near base of 18" tree. Largest 25 mm diameter. (Saved to show others). At dried pool 100' across, tracks bear & deer in soft ground, 9200; 1 mi. E. of Spanish L. / Over ridge & descended granite boulder slope to Sp. Lake, 9500'. Surrounded by conifers - RF, WP, LP. Said to have 10" rainbow trout; I saw several to 6" in shallows. Partly mossy muddy bottom. Logs & grass at edges. Poor tracking around it. About 6 camping parties there. Jeep road to foot lake (Adios Camp). Road fair tracking - extended to Crown Valley area & beyond to NE, I think.



Trail dusty, horse tracks, some large dog. Walked down Spanish Mdw. to foot Statum Mdw. on trail. ch.- / 1435, foot Statum, where started today. Then on toward car. 1540, crossed Statum Cr., about 8' wide; small trout numerous. Rancheria Cr. somewhat larger than St., above fork. ~~1530~~ 1555, crossed Rancheria Cr. on trail. 1625, reached car at trailhead, 6700'. Last ½ hr. mostly through controlled burn (1971?) area, dusty, much horse traffic. A hunter said 2 deer brought down ~~on~~ this afternoon (season ~~opened~~ opened 22 Sept. here). / Another controlled burn in progress. I drove to Woodchuck Trailhd. area and camped. Clear & calm night. / 9 hrs. search today.

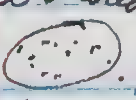
walk 8 hrs. counted 10 mi. to W.

30 Sept. 1973. Sunday To Wishon Store, but Dale B. not up yet. Then up road to Courtright Res., noting side roads. (See back prev. sheet.) Courtright Res. drawn down 10' or +. Few people now. Drove back 1½ mi. to some corrals, parked, 8200'. Departed 1150 & hiked up slope about ~~330~~ 330° T., heading for Cogle Pk. Up granite slope. Over first crest 1220. Then fairly open RF, LP and gentle slope. 1225, lake 1/4 mi. diam. Fisherman said E Brook Tr. 10 or and soon saw Cogle Peak, naked granite. En route, lodgepole pines (LP), 10'-50' apart. Slowly up to 9000'. Soft dried pond 100 yds. across; cattle, deer, dog or coyote tracks, 8900', 1300. At 9400', many droppings on granite rocks (marmot?).

Journal

30 Sept. 1973 Nr. Eagle Pk., Sierra N.F.

On flats, squirrel & gopher holes in loose beige soil. Many old cattle tracks in woods, but apparently removed. | 9600', 10% white P. Chickaree cut cones. 1410, about 1/2 mile SW of Eagle Pk. at 9700' (2 kodachr.). Kodachr. Eagle Pk
Skirted S. side mtn. going W, same level. 9800' flushed Sierra grouse from L.P. pine. Many deer tracks. Another grouse flew from 20' up (Kodachr., Mt. Nelson). Mostly across granite, but LPP up one K
draw to pass E. of Nelson (saddle betw. Nelson & Eagle). Lower draw had occas. flats w. forbs & yellow willow bushes. LPP's at crest, to 50' tall. Broad sandy area. One site, 5 piles coyote droppings in 4 yds. much scratch dirt toward (2 kodachromes). None of these had manzanita berries, but K
elsewhere found 2 sets with. Droppings mostly 17 mm diam. Counted 16 in one pile, some much older than other. (Sky 5/10 alto-~~strat.~~ & alto-cum., wind 10 lite SW, as if storm coming.) Largest scat 28 mm diam, 10 cm long, with others (lion?) (saved). | On E. side pass (9600'?), Mt. Quail, about 12, feeding on sandy ground near boulders under LPP near willow bushes. Few deer tracks at crest; 4X as many coyote. No sign lion or bear. Many gopher mounds on open sandy ground. I started down N. slope of Nelson mtn. Saw ~~arrived at~~ Sportsman Lake, when I at 9700'. Saw pika on way, Clark Nutcracker. At lake at 1710, 9300'. Sparse LP around edge, but granite behind. Grassy shores, fallen logs at edges, flatish mud bottom (said to have some large brown trout). Mod. fishing evidence edges. | Went on to Hatch Lake, larger, with rock islands & peninsulas, grassy shores. Saw 9" rainbows?. LPP, WWP around, std 10 mi w
backed by granite slopes. Found frog eggs under small log on shore



. | I ascended to SE to ridgetop & camped at 1830. Wind stopped, few clouds. | Searched 6 1/2 hrs.

1 October 1973 Monday, 44°F. at 0630. Heard no owls or coyotes night

1 Oct. Odan 00 272.4

Journal

1 October 1973. Nr. Nelson Mtn., Sierra N.F., Fresno Co, Calif.
Start 0715.
Clear, calm. Headed SE, descending. At head first draw, 8900', partly logged area
(so must be jeeptrail). Sandy openings on rounded ridges w. many
gopher mounds & coyote diggings. Mostly RFir on slope. Few deer
tracks. 0845, tiny stream going SW. 0850, hit jeeps road on ridge,
(apparently connects w. Bear Meadow rd., Round Cr. rd.). Man & dog
tracks on road. Branch went out ridge to SW. + alongside it; I went
out the ridge about 1 mile. RF, LPP, WWP. Crest about 8800'. Two
redtailed hawks circled together. Saw 1 raven. /1030, headed back
to E. on road. /Met hunter, retired Navy man from NAS, Lemoore. He
had hunted here several years, taken good bucks at pass E. of
Nelson Mtn. & near our site (8800') in chinquapin patch. Said never
had seen puma sign here. But once tracks in Snow Corral
Canyon about 1 mi. N. of Brush Mdw. Also partner saw one near
Redwood Creek (Kaweah R. area) but did not shoot it. / I left road
1135, followed contour to E. Through LPP, RF, WWP. Sometimes
sev'l hundred yds. over granite slopes. Saw no deer. 1335, reached
low pt. ridge N. of Short Hair Pk. Big RF + 5 70 WWP. Flatish
barish area under trees. Cirrus & ci.-str. clouds; 58°F. 1400,
atop Short Hair Pk., where good view all around. About 9300'. S.H.
Mdw. bore 055°T. I descended to meadow & followed trail, often good
for tracking, across it. Continued on trail about 015°-030°. This route
took me a mile or so too far N., so cut SE & descended, reaching highway
1400 and my car at 1415. /Set 2 live traps for Citellus lateralis. They
have been taking nuts from spiny chinquapin burrs. Stayed
for the night.

2 Oct. 1973. Tues. 39°F. at 0700. No traps catch by 0800. Drove & looked
sev'l mi. for tracks on 2 short log roads. A larger road, + 4 mi. N.

Journal

2 October 1973 Dinkey Cr. area, Sierra N. Forest.

on Courtright rd., seemed to extend 1/2 mi.+. I walked up 15 min. & back, to W. Fresh tracks, adult bear + cub. Continued to Short Hair Cr. & parked. Headed up slope 225° thru thick red fir, reaching top of Hall Mtn. 0940. Much short manzanita, granite rocks, & good views. (Jeep rd. bore 150°, .2 mi.) Clear, calm. Saw 1 Sharp-shin hawk flying. | I headed N. on ridge. Ground good for tracking, sandy, much bare, many gopher burrows. At a pass, many coyote (?) scratchings + deer tracks (branch of SH Creek). | 1055, 2 sets coyote droppings on mound rotted wood where trail crossed fallen fir. To 22 mm. diam. One set pale gray, other dark brown. Included small hairs (rodent ?) and rodent bones. 8550'. | Saw a nut-cracker. No puma or bear sign. 1110, in pass 220°T. from Short Hair Pk. Red Fir at pass (P Pine to W.). Probably excellent deer crossing SH ↔ Deer Creek. | I descended to E. Wide canyon with much L Pine. Many cattle tracks. Rainbows to 8" in creek. I followed downstream - mostly poor tracking ground - to road (1230). | About 4 hrs. today searching for tracks. | Bathed in creek. Then slowly drove S., stopping briefly at sideroads to search. | Went to Weston Store, looking for Dale B. - gone huntin'. So drove W. Stopped to check for puma tracks where seen Sept. 28 - found none, & 3 of sites where smooth ground sifted were undisturbed. One somewhat tracked by but not by puma (deer ?). | Continued on to Dinkey Cr. bridge. Then headed S. & down on Dinkey Creek rd. Rather hard dirt road but parts o.k. for tracking. Several side roads. Continued on down to Ross Crossing, where new bridge crossed Dinkey Cr. (clear, 20' wide). This in P Pine, black oak area. No one there, tho campground. Drove upslope to W., then to Oak Flat camp on one-way road. About 3 camping rigs there.

Journal

2 October 1973 Dinkey Creek Cnyn., Sierra N.F.

Road beyond bad - 4w.d. I camped at 7 p.m. Found no puma sign today. (The roads where seen before had fresh car tracks.)

3 Oct. 1973. Departed Oak Flat 0730. Ascended 3½ mi. to Dinkey Cr. road - many coyote tracks in dust on road, & some fox, skunk, racoon. Nutmeg Saddle 4827'. I descended road past Fence Rdg., about 6 mi. from Saddle, 4600'; blue oaks. Secata Ridge, blue oak - grass - brush; saw bandtails. Crossed Big Creek at 1600' - occasional Ponderosa pine, Inc. cedar; brush, live oaks. Continued on to edge Pine Flat Res. - much drawn down (50') & few (almost no) campers or boaters; Ra On to Trimmer R.S. - Ranger & Resource Forester both away, but an engineer helped me look at maps - apparently none up to date on roads. This in digger pine, blue oak, zone. / Drove on to Fresno. Phoned Bill Stewart. Bob Gale out of U.S.F.S. Continued on to Berkeley.

10 October 1973, Wedn. Departed Berkeley 0510, alone, in UC pickup. Drove via Carmel to Big Sur and several miles beyond, to Larry Sitton place. Dick Weaver of F+G, Santo, there, and also Sue Waller, student from San Diego State Coll. Hunter Jeff Brant, from Fallon, Nev., already at Lion Den camp. Rain on two recent days. We talked lions. Then headed S. on coast to Willow Creek, thence into mts. on dirt road. Ascended rapidly. A few houses on flats, & old car wrecks. About 8 mi. from hiway #1, on divide betw. Willow Cr. & Alder Cr. (photo to N., Cone Pk. & J. Serra). Generally dissected country, mostly chaparral burned several (4?) years ago. Larry said large + 3 smaller pumas had been trailed (2 day ?) across a pass to N., out of Willow Cr. On this more old burn. Black conifer trunks still stand, & patches green trees (oaks in some canyons). Much chamise, w. spaces between; also toyon, manzanita, other shrubs. / at Lion's Den camp, high in Salmon Cr. canyon, Jeff Brant, prof. bear & lion guide from Nevada, w. about 5 dogs,

Bear Creek (Dinkey-Wishon Rd.) going W.

.4	track N.
.7	rd. N., Laurel Cr.
.8	rd. N.
1.0	Hatch Lake rd. N.
3.4	Dinkey Cr. bridge
.8	Don & Dave Pack Sta.
.9	Forked Mdw. Rd.
4.2	Pine Fl. rd. (2.8 mi. to res.)
0 ←	
9.5 mi.	Dam road; to Oak Flat jct.
11.7	Ross Crossing Bridge

10 Oct. Bark. lv 0500 6826 Full
Carmel 937 (Carmel R) +7.7 gal.
Sitton 992

CK

Journal

10 October 1973. SW Monterey Co., Calif.

horse, truck. Probably mid 20's. College degree. JB said arrived shortly before 2 days rain started. Today found trail early, on road on crest, & dogs followed it 4-5 hrs. (in that time found no droppings or scrapes), going strong way. On previous trip, he had seen tracks larger & smaller on road 1/4 mi. E of Lion Den, picked it up again on trail to Silver Peak. He had written article (unpubl.) about puma scrapes & offered to send it to me. Said if scratches rubbed out, cat makes others when returns (Tom only). That once saw about 30 scratches by track in about 3 miles, in Nevada. That had never seen droppings covered. Recommended Jim Welden of Yreka as informant (also Nels "Cougar Bar" Brown). Also George W. "Wiley" Carroll, Box 104 Ely, Nevada - experienced lion hunter. Also hunters Mike Fromhold & Bill Butler of Palo Alto know much but probably would not talk about it. They had revisited some old lion bounty localities, & at Ruth Lake (Trinity Co.?) had found scratch of a big Tom. | At 3 p.m. I left camp & walked to head Dutra road, beyond Three Peaks. Saw a buck deer w. swollen neck, [?] antlers, flushed by a dog. Saw golden eagle juv., much white base tail, in draw NE of Lion Mtn. Saw 2 mountain quail and heard others nearby there. Road, beaten by rains, dustless, poor for tracking (tho said fair when dry). I found no sign puma. | Larry said they previously (August?) worked on Hunter Liggett MR to N. of present area, in Burro Cr. area. Found tracks, some down to 1500', but captured no pumas. | Sitton said: Recent depredation capture by Bergman betw. Paso Robles & Cambria. When darted, fell 40 ft. to ground, hard. Released near Cone Pk. Had descended to near coast & returned to crest - then radio failed. So far had found only 2 puma scats in area, no scrapes or fresh kills. In summer many tracks, but few since start deer season (also acorn fall, cooler). Turned in early.

11 Oct. 1973. Thurs. up at 0430. Checked some roads w. car & dogs. Then Larry & Jeff went w. 1 horse, dogs, to Dutra Place, while Weaver & I took truck

Journal

11 October 1973 SW Monterey Co, Calif.

to near Lion Pk., then drove road down onto HLMR, fence N., then back up to ridge on "Burma Road", & back to Lion Den about 2 p.m. Stopped often to look for sign puma but found none. Saw deer only in the lower ~~belt~~ belt where mostly oaks. Unburned chaparral slope very tight + thick growth, seemingly impenetrable (at N. edge of the burn). Much talk about the project. Weaver apparently suspicious of Sitton. (Weaver worked mostly on desert bighorn). From Lion Den, I hiked W. + SW. to top of Silver Peak. Saw one possible puma track (est. 2 days old), pad 52, toes 80 wide. Many rock outcrops. (Heard gray squirrel at Lion Den.) Saw a white-tailed kite at 3500', perched atop black dead conifer. / At camp, Jeff said he had found one large track (90mm toes) and three puma droppings (near black, with apparent ~~a~~ Beechey ground sq. hair) at Dutra ~~Ranch~~ Flat. He + Larry had spent 9 hrs. on trail w. dogs, which found no lion scent. / I collected ring-necked snake on trail 1/2 mile W. of camp. / ~~Jess~~ Jeff showed me some of his notes, well kept in ~~bound~~ books, including several concerning "scratches" by males. He thinks usually made with ~~fe~~ feet together, single stroke, separate foot marks not evident. He said once came on tracks apparent ♂ + ♀, hunting together, mating. After mating, male made many scratches in snow. / Weaver said of May (?) depredation in Napa Co. where puma killed about 40 sheep in 3 nights. Then it disappeared so no more trouble. In area where no lions known for long, mostly rolling grassland. Larry said dead ♂ found in snow near Mammoth Pool Res. apparently 2 ♂♂ ~~met~~ at a kill + fought, one killed.

counted 2 mi. due to

when? 1972?

12 October 1973. Friday. Up 0430 again. Short check on roads. Then Jeff + Dick went to Villa Cr. or Cruikshank area. I took Jeff's truck to Alder Creek campground, 1400 f. Small mine tunnel there (bats?), clear stream, sycamores, bay oaks. (Two w-t kites on snags near Silver Peak 0600). I hiked

Journal

12 October 1973 SW Monterey Co., Calif.

downstream, starting 0900, then across sidehill to Villa Cr. drainage. Found several coyote scats and two possible puma scats (30mm. diam., black, ammonia smell, hair small mammal). Poor tracking beaten grass trail. Many coyote or bobcat scats some inter on trail. Fire blackened pines, bays, oaks. Acorn woodpeckers. Gopher mounds common. 10 00, at edge Villa Canyon, 2000'. Angled down + across to E. Big redwoods in bottom; many had been burned in past. Reached clear 3' creek at 11 a.m. Rocky, shaded by redwoods. Up steep slope to S. to upper Buckeye camp, 1600', at 1135. Bay, live oaks, redwoods, + barbed wire enclosure (1 A?). Thence to Silver Camp, 2100', arriving 1225. Bay trees, sycamore, live oak, pine. Rivulet clear water. Bay tree flat (a few acres). Steller jays. Gray squirrel ate P. Pine cones. Heard (pileated?) woodpecker. / Then on up canyon to E. on sidehill, mostly very shady; Q. chrysolepis w. many acorns on ground (rarely eaten). About 2200-2700', several dozen Santa Lucia fir trees. Tops covered w. scattered brown scales. Some redwoods at same levels. Then back at Louis Dam, about 2:45 p.m. Clear still day; many small flies. Steller jays. / I had walked about 6 hrs. total — no puma tracks, 2 probable droppings. Jeff had not returned by 5 p.m. Larry had gone down to coast on some business. / Jeff returned, having gone ~~around~~ Silver Pk. to Buckeye camp + back in a circuit with his dogs. Dogs had trailed for 3 hrs., probably on old puma tracks, but no tracks or sign found. S. Waller arrived in eve, after Larry. She too was uncertain whether 2 scats I brought were of lion. Jeff thought one fairly sure — but he said a scat ~~of one of his~~ dogs, which had been eating deer hair, very similar. Is it possible to separate all scats?

std. w. 10 mi.

13 October 1973. Up at 0430. The crew ran roads at crest w. dogs and cars. About 0600 I departed down road, reaching coast highway about 0730 (13 slow miles down). On to Berkeley.

Journal

17 October 1973 From Berkeley to Trimmer, Fresno Co. Calif.

With U.C. truck & Dave Bradford, departed 0700 for Sierra National Forest. In Fresno, stopped USFS. Then visited Salwasser home. Then shopped and drove on to Trimmer. Warm calm day; about 90°. There talked w. Resource Forester, Bill SKOVRAN (U. Minnesota) ~~SKOLRAN~~, who seemed cooperative but knew little of pumas. He invited Dave to ~~talk~~ at monthly safety meeting, 0900 last Friday of month. He helped with additional road information. We drove on up by Sycamore Creek, then on ~~Dinkey Creek~~ Big Creek (dirt road but poor for tracking) road to Big Creek camp. Thence on .3 mi. and turned off W. on Banner Mtn. rd. (where Farnsham had reported puma tracks). Drove slowly, walked some areas, looking for tracks. Arrived at summit, 4150', about 5 p.m. Walked roads looking for tracks. Found many dog tracks, tho rains about 10 days ago hardened soft ground much, some still held tracks. We walked up & down road & found puma track, made series rains, in road about 200 yds. N. of summit. Pad 55 wide, toes 79 wide, track 80 long. - probably [RF] [small] R. forefoot. Dave traced it & I made cast. | This trip for purpose of starting Dave on part time job as assistant on puma project in this area. Clear calm night, some mosquitos; warm for October. Top of Banner Mtn. has small ponderosa pine, black oaks, mt. misery, manzanita; doubtless cut over in past. Slopes seen to E. mainly covered with mixed conifers. | Bear track on road low on Banner Mtn., S. end.

tracks

18 October 1973. Measured another dried-mud puma track, 56 pad, 75 toes, 86 long; same series as yesterday. | Drove slowly N. on road to Lookout Saddle, thence via Duff ~~Big~~ Cr. Camp to Big Cr. camp. Thence to road to Nutmeg Saddle. About 5% only good for tracks, after ascent of about 2 miles, into area of old burn (1964?) where mostly sparsed brush, grass, dead trees. | Nutmeg Saddle, former loose dust now hard dried mud & tracking poor. We drove S. & in to Fence Mdw. Lookout, where talked to some

Journal

18 October 1973 — Dinkey Cr. area, Sierra N.F.

man as on first trip. He had heard of no pumas in area, but said occas. saw small fox. Rain 1 1/3" about 10 days ago, for 2 days, but little increase in deer, he thought. Tracking on road remained poor to Rose Crossing (no one camped there, tho still deer season). We were unable to find main trail up or down Dinkey Creek. Took road up Patterson Mtn.; parts still under constr. Parts well graded & broad. Too hard for tracks in most places, & road equipment had smoothed many other parts. Rounded Poison Ridge. Took branch to Bear Wallow for 1 mi., where warning sign. I walked 1/2 mile on down the ridge (P. pine, black oak). Saw bear track & flushed gp. 6± mt. quail. Good view lower Dinkey Cr. Valley to W. / On up road & stopped near Patterson Bluff & walked to edge where dropped steeply down to Balch Camp area, and winding lower rd. (Took Kodachrome). This ridgetop seemed good area for pumas & tracks. Many deer tracks on some trails; most I have seen in area (migration route?) Granite-sandy ground, many shrubs, open red fir, some sugar pine. Flushed 5± Mt. Quail. Saw Citellus beecheyi. / Drove on up good road, mostly thru red fir. Before Ross Meadows about 2 mi. road rather sandy & fair for tracking. Ross Mdw. grassy, dry now, w. yellow-leaved aspen. At 7400', 2 mature golden eagles flying among red fir tops, & occasionally landed in tops. Dave B. saw one golden mantled grd. squirrel — we saw no Eutamias. Saw one raven. Passed Bull Creek & camped a short distance on about 7100 ft. elev. Cool clear eve. Heard no night birds. (red fir, some pines).

19 October 1973. About 44°F. at 0700. 6/10 cirrus clouds. We drove on up to Dinkey Rd. & Brush mdw. about 1/2 mile N. on narrow dirt road, which entered large E-W logging rd. (This apparently connected to Hotch Lake rd.) Logging in red fir here. So went to Brush Meadow. There I left Dave to explore

10/19/73 DOR

C. lateralis

♂ t. 7 266-94-44-22.
Dead on rd., about 6800'

Journal

19 October 1973 Dinkey Cr. area, Sierra N.F.

area to N. for 4 hrs. I alone went W. to Bear Creek area to check side roads. Found no puma sign where found 28 Sept. / Walked down abandoned rd. going down from .4 mi. E. of Gigantea (NE S.2). Poor surface for tracks but fairly open & gentle slopes. Found 3 fresh bear scats in 1 mi. Saw 3 fawns + 2 yrl. or does near grassy meadow. Searched about 1 hr. in vicinity. / Rd. upslope to N. from .9 W. of Mc Kinley Grove, where tracks 9/28, still partly trackable. No apparent use of my scent post. Walked up about a mile, 330°, then 90°. No puma sign. Found nearly fresh dead C. lateralis on road (♂), about 6800'. Saw a Eutamias. / Went on to Dinkey Creek. Ranger USFS station officially closed there now. They Two men thought that the deer study man (Bertram) had left. / I returned to Buck Mdw. Dave arrived about 1430. We drove to Wishon store & talked w. Mrs. Jasper. They stayed all winter here; snow usually clear below 4800 ft. 13 yrs. here. She had no direct puma info. Wait until man returns! / Drove on to Crown Valley [= Sugar Pine Hill] trailhead. I walked to Rancheria creek. Trail dusty & beaten by man & horse feet, which tended to obscure tracks. Much used deer hunter entry. / Dave had gone N. from Buck Meadow, walking much on ridges. Hit an E-W road where trail marked on map. Logging in progress. He saw no puma sign - about 4 hrs. walk + search. / Camped at Woodchuck Trailhead. Some clouds & a few drops of rain at night. [Snow visible on N. slopes of upper Rodgers Ridge]

20 October 1973. Calm, 4/10 cumulus. We went to Wishon Village & talked w. Dale Breckenridge, part owner. He had spent 5 winters here; had snow cat; out in winter via Haas Powerhouse & Balch Camp. He usually hunted high country to E. Had seen no pumas or tracks. Older man present, camper from Reedley, said he tried to follow puma tracks near Wishon Village about 1 month ago. / Dale said that a Fresno State student, Lief Vaelty, studying coyotes in Teakettle area. / Sky cleared. Went to Shorthair Cr. on Courtright

hrs.
track
search.
? & mi

w-1
not count D. Breckenridge

C. Koford

Journal - Puma

20 October 1973 Sierra N.F.

rd. Dave headed for Hall Mtn. & crest to search for tracks. I went a mile N. & hiked W. on logging rd. Road trackable. Went ~~about~~ in about 1 mile to freshly logged site. Then took trails cross country north up branch of Dinkey Cr. Mainly lodgepole pine, slope 5-10%, leading toward Eagle Pk. Occas. patch snow to 5 yds across. Bear tracks on one patch. [Dale told of white squirrels at Wishon Village last year; said broad tails, climbed trees, pink eyes. But none seen 1973.] I saw 2 deer in lodgepole area. Tracks frequent. | 1305, I was in pass E of Sh. H. Mdw. Pk., at S. ~~N~~ foot of SH mdw. Lodgepole, granite boulders. Hdd. east. 1325, saw Dave on ridge ½ mi. E. of Hall-SHPk. pass. One area, trail apparently dragged as if for tracking (also seen before in SH mdw.). Coyote tracks here. I walked back to Courtright Rd. (145. ~~1400~~) Dave soon arrived. He thought had found apparent puma tracks in snow; [uncertain - not std.] measurements spacing in his field notes. | Drove then via Sawmill Flat road toward Black Rock. Fine views of N. Fk. below Wishon Dam. Road skirted cliffs. About 3 p.m. we saw a bald eagle over river at 6600' level. Continued to bottom, last part in mixed brush & rock area, estimated good for bobcats. Many hunters in Black Rock camp area (Saturday) and on road up to top of Rodgers Ridge. We ascended dirt road. Many campers, hunters near Wiesmann Spring (little open water). Ridge apparently cut & burned in part, but P. Pine near crest, ~~brush~~ brushy slopes. Wide well-graded dirt road ascending ridge. We walked trails down ridge about ½ mile & return. Number of coyote / fox scats, & deer tracks. Good site for puma signs after hunters gone.

CK 3 hrs: w =6 mi

DB 4 hrs foot search

c.t.'' ☆

Journal- (Puma)

20 October 1973 Sierra N.F., Fresno Co. Calif.

We drove on to Balch Camp, a power company settlement. The canyon similar to Coffee Creek area E. of Porterville. Several camping families at Kirch Flat. Riverside road there to Garnet Dike; possible tracking area. Drove on to Trimmer. Then on to Fresno area and north back to Berkeley. (This trip primarily for orientation of Bradford. Track found in hard mud at Banner Mtn.; possible one in snow (says DB) at Hall Mtn. Tracking poor at lower elevs., fair above 5000'. / Gary Bamzon, asst., returned from Slate Mtn. area. about 1 week trip. (10–17 Oct.) He got good info from Don Foster, of Redding (a man living near Don supposedly preparing puma book). He talked w. Bob Ekwell, game warden at Trinity Center. Foster indicated summer & winter areas lions, which he said descended to lake edges in winter. He thought Sanford Pass area especially good. Foster willing to accompany in field. Gary also talked w. ~~[illegible]~~ range (?) at Weaverville, made friends at Whipple Ranch. He walked much road but found no puma sign.

25 October 1973. Thurs. Departed 0500 in UC pickup. Berkeley to Sheridan. Drove via 101 to Sheridan's McMillan Ranch, 240 miles. Mr. McMillan away, Cl. McM. away, Jim [illegible] away, Cliff [illegible] too, so worked on equipment. Large camp prepared in area of L. McM. house, as usual. Evening band rain, but mostly appeared dry. Windy all day and into night.

26 October 1973. Drove via Santa Margarita to Pozo. Few changes from highway 58, oak-grassland in valleys, chaparral-covered hills. Heavy [illegible] on ground; [illegible] [illegible] in open. [illegible] from Pozo station. I drove on up to Hi Mtn & talked w. "Val" [illegible], [illegible] talked with in July. He had seen no cougars

Journal

26 October 1973 Hi Mtn., [illegible] Cont.

during fire season, the visitors had reported seeing them. She said peregrine had departed. One group told her that they saw a

rept. puma run across the road, about 3 mi. W of lookout, in

deer season (?), & that cat was not far away. (She thought them experienced people. They mentioned long tail.) That road runs [illegible], on chaparral ridge; site probably near Little Falls Spr. I walked out & up

w-3mi road to top Garcia Mtn. in 1½ hrs. E-W crest thru heavy chaparral.

Many droppings, coyote & bobcat, often new piled on old, several places need double [illegible]. [illegible] on top. Saw one golden eagle fly over ridge, heading N, about 4 p.m. Returned to Hi Mtn. road & camped among live oaks at campground. Bubo called before dark & after. Road from saddle (1 mi E of camp) to Arroyo Grande Stn. may be good, in Salt Creek area, for puma tracks. In general, tracking [illegible] poor because rain settled & hardened the dust at edges of roads & trails, & little traffic to break ground since deer season ended late Sept. Heard Mtn. Quail on Garcia Mtn. ridge, & saw 1 gray squirrel about 1 mi. W. of Hi Mtn. camp.

27 October 1973. Sat. Clear. Wind stopped. I drove down to Pozo Sta. (USFS). Talked w. Bob Lanier. He said ♀ puma found dead in creek [L. said puma known on that ranch previously.] about 2 mi. to E. about 2 wks. ago, presumably shot. The lookout lady told me similar, said first rancher (Arnold?) from Pozo sta. toward LO had seen the cat, said warden Taylor knew about it. Lanier also said that several yrs. ago after Laguna fire near Descanso, San Diego Co., some UCSD man had investigated animal life & found evidence many pumas. Others at guard sta. seemed little interested in puma. (John Blake absent - also not home.) I called Avenales Ranch then borrowed USFS key to get in. Went to Avenales & met Cliff Hudson. He said no recent reports puma. He

Journal

San Luis Obispo Co.

27 October 1973 Avenales Ranch,

told of doe dead + partly eaten near "Smitty's place," on ranch nr. Avenales Sta. Cliff said coyotes numerous. Bears wrecking float balls on water troughs + wrecking wooden troughs. Coyotes heard near ranch house recently. He was shooting quail w. guest; I saw coveys 10± nr. road. Cliff said best quail crops (Lophortyx) for years. Today quail season opens. / About noon I started up "Pilitas" road to microwave station. / On ridge at side road, about 4 mi. up, 2400'; I found possible ~~apparent~~ puma droppings (still strong smell) [doubtful], 1 long, 1 short (coll.), blackish, w. gray hairs. Between chamise shrubs 3 yds. apart. Blue oak-grassland slopes nearby. Coyote droppings also nearby (indicate good puma dropping area?). I smoothed a spot + put catnip. / Put another scent sta. 3 mi. farther up road on turnout track nr. chamise. Another 3 mi on at metal gate, 2800'. (Here 4 w.d. road leads N. to firebreak along crest to Machesna Mtn.) Still blue oak-grassl., tho thick chamise slopes near. About 1.3 mi. farther to crest, + top of E. slopes. Then 2.6 mi. thru chaparral to microwave sta. Road up has been asphalted, mostly old, so poor for tracks, tho some turnouts fair. Occasional ravens. / I hiked out ridge to the PG+E power line road. Trail poor for tracks; grown over 4 w.d. road. Many coyote or fox scats, some with many choke cherry seeds. ~~Sun ...~~ 1655, started back on ridge, faster: only 55 min. to microwave sta. Heard mtn. quail in chamise + saw 10± on road nr. bldg. in eve. / About 3 hrs. spent in foot search for sign today. Camped on ridge.

28 October 1973. No tracks at local scent sta. Clear morning, mod. wind nite. ~~Clothes~~ Clocks set back an hour last night. Departed 0710. 10± mtn. quail on road, tamish. Drove down to highest grassy zone. / Saw large ♂ deer } (no brow tine) following 5-20 yds. behind a doe

w-t

tr. w = 6 mi
c = 2

Mr. Beechinor

Bakersfield - feed lot or store?

Buckhorn Ranch

Journal

20 October 1973. Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co.

[deer rut]
walking, w. high steps, across slope. Occas. she held tail up. They continued 100+ yds. I saw a smaller forked-horn buck near road, same area, above 2500' elev. Coyote tracks at one scent sta. (catnip), at a saddle. Blue oak-grassl. Near Pilitas gate, fox(?) tracks at a scent sta. Met Cliff H. there.

rept. He now remembered seeing tracks (since rain) small lion near Buckhorn-Branch Mtn. road fork, S. of locked gate, since my last visit. Also possible puma tracks & much scratched up ground near gate about 3½ mi. S. of house, Alamo area. I parked 200 yds. N. of gate (Pilitas pasture). Started toward Machesna Mtn. After 50 yds. I found fresh puma tracks in dust, churned up by cattle. Took photo. Pad 55 w., toes 89 [Hind length 95. Blue oak woodl. on 20% slope. Also coyote tracks. Twice more found heel pad 60 w. x 48 long. Heel pad only showed on many tracks (coyotes more wt. on toes?). One print (LF?), center lobe of heelmark 5 mm. anterior to lateral (or RR); consistent diff? others

tr. ad 07. not. Pad 58 w. x 50 long on another print. another 56 pad 82 toes. another 55-82-100. 20" stride, 1½" register. Pad

Cast 57 x 55. Made plaster cast one track; sprayed dust w. Krylon first. Took

K. Kodachrome tracks. | I walked on trail leading E. (17E01) ¼ mile, in oak-grassl, but ground too hard for tracks. Took 16E01 to N. About 1 mile to a locked wire gate, where trail became chamise ridge firebreak. ~~Onc~~ On 10' stretch fine loose sand I found more tracks, same size. Photoed. 3000'. Also coyote tracks here. Puma pace 21"-22". / 200 yds. further on, probable puma scat, greenish-gray, 10' from coyote scats w. insects. Saved. 3100'. 1230, ½ mile on, fine sand again and more puma prints (Kodch. # 20). Pad 57 wide. Saw 4 ravens. One small Phrynosoma lizard. About 200 yds. on, lion (?) scratch, 1 print 6" ahead

scratch of it. Other prints 5' to rear (N, upslope). Two photos. Scratch 10" long, 9" wide, leaf pile (manzanita) 10" long and 2½" deep. Sandy ground (only scratch where soft?). No odor urine or feces. Cavity 65 mm. deep.

Journal

28 October 1973. Avenales Ranch, San Luis Ob. Co.

10% E. slope. 3200'. Foreslide in chamise near top ridge. about 100 yds. to crest & F 33 trail sign (orange, metal). More tracks until 1305. Then ground mostly harder, rockier. 1:15, another possible scratch in manzanita bus., shallower, no tracks seen; 9" long x 7" wide, two lobed, 3½ cm. deep mound, 2½ cm. deep scratch. Between 1' boulder & brush 5' distant. No odor or droppings. / Continued on. 3-6' chamise, manzanita, scrub oak. 1945, in saddle, 3000'. Then steeper up to N. 1:55, sign F30, wire gate. Then patch of oak grassland, & soon jct. w. trail 16E04 to W. (wooden sign; said Pilitas to. 2, Avenales Camp. trail 6, Pine Mtn. Spr. 5.). Soon main trail (4 w.d. road) headed W. & descended, ¼ mile down to FH 31 sign. Oak-grass valley, above Machon Spring. I turned back at 1440. Trading seen. Occas. coyote tracks & often coyote / fox droppings. 1550, 3000'; found apparent puma scat dropping in road (missed on outward trip); saved. No scrape. ¼ mile N. of first scrape found today. 1620, reached barbed-wire gate. Back at truck at 1655. About 20 mph E. wind. / I swept about 100 m. of trail, where tracks found this morning, & put catnip on site. Camped ¼ mi. distant. Clear but windy all night. Heard no coyotes. Sunset about 1710.

29 October 1973. Still windy. No tracks in my swept area (wind inhibit activity coyotes + pumas in open?). No sign at lower scent station, but also windswept. Descended mtn. Lower wooden gate about 3 mi. below Pilitas-Machona gate. Saw flock 100± blackbirds. Last eve, 20± ravens over chamise at 3000,' in wind. Many yellow-billed magpies on ranch. I talked again w. Cliff Hudson. Then drove out Agua Escondido road 1.7 mi. to locked gate. Road thru oak-grassland, then steep chaparral slopes; parts road sandy and trackable. Then drove to Pozo Station to return key. Several USFS boys from Arroyo Seco there. Steve Wells & Juan Gonzalez said lions have

w ** nat.

Dan Pine – King C., F & G

Sam Avila – San Ardo

Journal (Puma Inventory)

29 October 1973. Pozo Sta., San Luis Ob. Co., Calif.
been seen several places. Juan said formerly on trail NW of Chris's Ridge
20. Also in area inland from Point Sur lighthouse, including
a scout camp area (Pico Blanco). Also about 3 mi. E. of Arroyo
Seco Sta., sec. 33. Another report nr. Piney Cr., about 5 mi. N. of
Arroyo Seco, NE sec. 7 (home of Walls ?). They thought Cone Peak area
potentially good. (20 there had photographed adult condor about 3 yrs.
ago). Another area W. of Hunter Liggett M.R., SE of Ponderosa camp (sec.
25, 30). Walls offered to accompany me in his area. They said
that Dan Pine, F+G, King City, was helpful. Also that Sam Avila of
San Ardo area, knew Pacific Valley coastal area well. I drove on over
Navajo summit thru Nat'l Forest; road + soil coarse sand or fine
gravel, poor for tracks. Continued on to I. McMillan ranch; he not
home yet. Worked on equipment.

30 October 1973. Phoned Sutton, stored, + MacGregor – latter told me that trip of Steve Mather, + associated field activity, put off to 12 November. Wind continued. I drove back to Berkeley via Interstate #5.

6 November 1973. Berkeley To Shasta Nat. For.
Rains last 2 days at Berkeley. Departed 0900 in UC
pickup with Gary Zamzow for Redding via highway 5.
Rain on and off, increasing. In Redding went to USFS
office and talked with Stan Cunningham, the recreational resources officer, with Jim Gordon, the wildlife biologist,
+ another man. They knew of puma project + expected
me. Very cooperative – loaned USFS key, offered use
of Pollard Flat cabin, later use lookouts, radios,
possibly horses on snowcat trips. One told of report

Journal

6 Nov. 1973 Shasta N.F. Calif.

near Slate ~~Mtn.~~ Creek. They knew of the incident of one following Greg (of Shasta City) about 2 yrs. ago. Gordon thought most pumas in McCloud River area, tho access poor. We discussed access, cooperating skiers, use snowmobiles. Dog Creek + Lamoine (+ Castle Cr. road) roads probably impassable from snow in winter a few miles from Sacto. R. Said could use Coffee Cr. station for camp if desired. They thought more snow on W. side of Slate Mtn. area than E., so better to go in from east side. We drove on to Pollard Flat in rain + camped in guard cabin (electric lights + stove! - mucho lujo!). Rain continued into night. | Going N. nr. Williams we saw skeins of waterfowl flying. Often small groups of meadow larks flew over road. Camped at Pollard Flat.

7 November 1973. Still sprinkling. We drove up Lamoine road 7.8 mile to Old Lamoine Mill area, about 3000'. Snow on Mt. Quail about 2000'. Snow in patches on ground, + wet. Deer, chickaree tracks in snow, + rarely coyote. Searching for puma sign. Black oak w. yellow lvs, dogwood red. Canyon live oak on some slopes. Mainly P pine, Inc. cedar, D. fir, rare Sugar Pine above 3000'. Continued to 1/2 mile beyond Budweiser Gap rd., as road too snowy. Hiked up road, often in snow, to Sanford Pass, 4140 ft. Saw bear tracks on road, across. deer. Then Gary walked on road to S., I to NW toward Slate Mtn. I walked 1 1/4 hrs. Saw bear tracks on road. About 1 hr. out, tracks 1 or 2 elk on road. Then one of a cat, probably bobcat, where road reached saddle of ridge. Occasional Steller jay but little

Journal

7 November 1973 Shasta N.F. Calif.

bird life in drizzle. Tracking conditions in snow good, but our tracks poor after 2-3 hrs. I returned to Sanford Pass about 1:15 p.m. Gary had found no puma tracks either. We walked back to car. Saw occasional snowshoe hare tracks in snow. No droppings any mammal found. But surface tunnels of marten? winding through snow in some areas, floors dusted by tiny beet - seedlike windings. / We drove then up road to Bushwacker Traps. This road had less snow & more rocks, so arrived at the flat at top road, 4200'. Visibility poor, but should be within 2 mi. of Slate Mtn. L.O. We found deer tracks, no puma. Practiced ski touring & snowshoeing to test equipment. Returned down road in dusk & dark. Saw no mammals or night birds on way down. Again to Pollard Flat for night

8 November 1973. still raining; very hard in night. Drove S. to Redding, thence to Lewiston. Talked w. Frank Hall at hatchery (F & G). Found Tim Burton marking 2 black bears, trapped, by river. He had no new news of puma. But game warden Chewell there, + another F & G man. They told of report by woman near Lewiston lake. Another by road workers at Brown Cr. on road to Hayfork. Said Jim McKnight (owns coffeeshop, Weaverville) formerly hunted Stuart Fork, Canyon Creek, Mule Hollow, + took several pumas. Chewell friendly, jovial. We drove Deadwood road toward Trinity Mtn. Went thru shaded area, blackoaks + douglas firs, smally

Journal (Puma study)

JBG
8 November 1973. Fri. To Slate Mtn, Shasta Co. up to 4600' (Highland ridge?), about 17 mi. Puma reports here in past, fide Burton. Road muddy last few miles & barely passable. Also unmarked intersections, confusing. But suitable for snow tracking. / Hit the paved road from French Gulch & drove N. One shack still at Trinity Mtn, tho main "mobile home" burned up. Also tent platforms here, partly covered. Guard sta. in summer. House had gas tank, sink, etc. - could be good for winter use. Paved road N. had snow in spots to 6"; but other cars had melted out tracks. We looked for tracks in snow but rain washed & poor for prints. Proceeded up dirt road to Slate Mtn. lookout. Road mainly snow-free; did not need chains. But raining and blowing hard, visibility 1/4 mile. Lookout had enough gas for light. Included heater too; stove out (temporarily?). We stayed for night. Rain & wind continued.
9 ~~10~~ Nov. 1973. Sat. Still drizzly & foggy. Drove slowly to Sanford Pass. After first jct, .2 mi. on found tracks bobcat in snow, fresh tracks, 60 mm across toes. A few small bird feathers there. Gary traced tracks. Took 2 Kodachromes. Fh. to Sanford P. was 3.2 mi. My ~~elk~~ + bobcat tracks
K K area of 7 Nov. was .8 mi. out; snow there gone today. .5 mi. out, saw deer w. forked horns. / After Sanford Pass, proceeded toward Damnation P. About 1.5 mi. to area where Gary saw elk track 7 Nov. About 2 mi., we were stopped by 6" of snow on road. Returned to Sanford Pass & descended to E. to Coffee Creek. Saw several USFS

Journal

10 Nov. 1973. Shasta Nat. For., Calif.

houses there & apparent barracks. Drove then to Lewiston, thence Redding to return Ivey, and on to Berkeley, arriving 8 p.m.

13 Nov. 1973. Tues. To Porterville, Tulare Co.

Departed Berkeley 2 p.m. + drove to Porterville, 264 mi., to attend advisory committee meeting for Calif. Condor + talk to USFS officials. Drizzly overcast weather. Field trip to Blue Ridge that day was in very poor visibility. Sequoia N.F. has new Supervisor (John (Laisure ?). Gordon Hoobner – is wildlife biologist; rather vacuous fellow.

14 Nov. 1973. attended condor meeting. One or more of 5 official members present. Mostly list of priorities for action. No summary of previous results. Apparently funds now available for purchase of Hopper Ranch for F + wildlife service reserve (Topatopa name). No new ideas to help condors – more of same, mostly additional protected areas. Talked w. new Resources officer of Los Padres (Muldannet ?), Ed Shreager, Dick Smith of Santa Barbara newspaper, Rod Hunt, others, including Maurice Bandur, biologist at Sequoia NP. Also Roland Clement, Wilbur, Carrier, + John Borneman – said he had photos of lion kill, saw one near San Cayetano peak (Piru Canyon nr. Fillmore), as seen at Grapevine ridge during recent condor count. Smith said he was with Carrier when found adults feeding (?) a juv. condor, in Feb. in Santa Barbara (Indian Creek area) Co., near some petroglyphs. He said most puma reports near Gaviota Pass area. He is well acquainted w. Santa Barbara co. back country.

Journal

14 Nov. 1973 Porterville, Tulare Co., Calif.

George Franklin, F&G. unit mgr., Porterville, said recent tracks puma near Camp Nelson. Also that a F&G lion hunter used to work in area around present Lake Isabella. Franklin said ♀ + 3 cubs taken on Tule Indian Res. several yrs. ago. Bob Werner, 20 years in area, USFS ranger at Springville, said not many pumas. Said adult & smaller reported Camp Nelson area. Said occas. cornered w. dogs & shot w. snow. He also mentioned Alder Springs area, Mendocino co., & Paskenta area. / Visited Sam Baker, houndsman, at Porterville College, Dept. Forestry. Rushed, as had class. Said tracks mostly in June-July. Said Ed Vance of Glennville a good hound tracker. Said Vernon Burke of Porterville recently treed 3 pumas in one (?) day, near camp Nelson, ~~bad~~ male Fla., & ?. / Then I drove north to Ash Mtn. entrance of Sequoia N.P. and visited w. Maurice Barden. He said they had file of records in park. C H Thompson, seasonal employee, reported track in snow near top of Little Baldy (8000'), 19 June 1973. Another report from old fire road in N. Fk. Kaweah, Dec. 14, 4-5000' and others filed. (Hopefully, Phil Schempf will get there in his survey). Barden said ~~that~~ about 1969, at Burton's Flat, he saw recent owner (Evans?) w. fresh skin puma taken nearby, above spring. Puma had dozen porcupine quills & may otherwise have died from them. / Barden seemed cooperative, offered use of dormitory. He was Cornell student, took ornith. from Charles Sibley. / I drove up road to Mineral King. Camped about 3800' at Lookout Pt. (nice ranger house, closed) Area of granite outcrops, manzanita, chamise, stum — but

Journal

14 Nov. 1973. Sequoia N.F. area, Tulare Co.

prob. good for pumas. Overcast, drizzly.

15 Nov. 1973. Drove on. Cirrus clouds; storm passed. No traffic at all. Asphalted road w. coarse granite sand edges, & loose banks. Poor for tracks. 5500'; conifers + occasional Sequoiadendron; much Q. chrysolepis. A large C. douglasii on redwood trunk, 10' up, rather tame; descending whirring call ~, repeated. 6200'; patches recent snow; deer tracks. Saw 1 doe. Saw Atwell Cr., Lost Conds, old Atwell Mill R.S. + campground. Looked for tracks in snow patches. Entered Nat. Forest. Cabin Cove area w. many summer houses. Then Silver City w. store + more houses; no sign of people. Snow on road about 2" in most places. 6800'; coyote tracks in snow on road. Also deer tracks. Faculty Flat, 7200'. More houses (small), snow patches, deer tracks in snow. On to Cold Spr. Campgr. Coyote tracks many. A fresh marmot head near dug out burrow in earth. (Kodach.
K/ of coyote tr.). A little ways on, guard station of nat. forest. / I met 2 men from Silver City near park station. They said no pumas in area. One said hunted both N + S of Mineral King & found no puma sign. Said houndsmen use Milk Ranch rd. One said formerly pumas at Blue Ridge; ~~I found one a~~ They said bobcats present, however, & that they saw one ~~today~~ this morning. / I started back down road. Saw 1 Eutamias + 1 C. stelleri out, about 7000'. Descended to Milk Ranch road (M 36 3) + started up it (3000' at bottom). 2.4 mi. up, a fork; W. road to lookout (M363 L), R. to Oriole Lake (M 362 R). Both roads w. locked gates. Area w. P. pine, Q. kelloggii, yerba santa, Q. chrysolepis, brush. I walked 1/2 hr. up lookout trail. Granite sand, poor for tracks. Heard Sciurus

Journal

15 Nov. 1973 Sequoia NP., S. edge, Calif.

K.- Ascended to 4500': Kaweah. to SE. Deer tracks on road, & fairly fresh coyote droppings. No snow here. Wind stopped; cirrus clouds. Returned downhill to main road. From fork, 8.3 mi. to Ash Mtn. - 3 Rivers road. Drove then to W. | Telephoned Dick Weaver in Sacto.; found that Mother had cancelled trip due sore feet of dogs. Next dog hunts Nov. 23 or later. Weather overcast & more rain coming. Drove to Berkeley.

tr. C-2 W-2

27 Nov. 1973. To Monterey Co., Calif.

Departed Berkeley in own pickup at 0900. Picked up Gary Zamzow. Then drove south on highway 101. Overcast & threatening rain in Berkeley, but gradually clearing to S. Stopped in King City, then drove in to Jolon, Hunter Liggett M.R., & up Ferguson-Nacimiento road to Summit, about 10 miles, to Nacimiento Sta. camp. There found small trailer of Plumblee brothers who were hunting pumas under contract w. F & G., helping Larry Sitton. No one there. / We took dirt road toward Apple Camp about 1 mi. Looked along dirt road for tracks of puma. Met a USFS man, about 50 yrs, who said had heard that a highway patrolman had seen a puma one evening on Nacimiento Road. He told of a man who killed about 5 pumas in Mt. Carmel area a few years ago. But he knew of no recent reports from district (King City hdqtrs.). Obviously poorly informed. / Found fox & bobcat tracks on soft soil edge on outer edge road. Walked about 1 mile & return. Then we drove out Cone Pk. trail road a few miles & walked another mile, to Second Trail. Again saw no puma tracks. There areas in canyon live oaks, bay, Coulter pine, above chaparral areas. Road surface damp & settled, good for tracks only in spots. Returned to Nacimiento Sta. camp. about 9 p.m., Plumblee brothers arrived. Clear night & cool.

W-2

Journal

28 Nov. 1973. Wednesday   Monterey Co., Calif.

Larry Sitton & Sue Wallen arrived 0600. About 0630, Larry & I went with Larry, & w. Bill & Dee Pleasley, in 4 w.d. Blazer to run roads, taking 3 red bone dogs. We drove first to S. on ridge road. They showed us puma track of a few days earlier on edge road. Also fresh bobcat tracks. Went S. about 5 miles on good dirt road [Coast Ridge Rd], then to L. on 4 w.d. road [McKern Trail] descending ridge to Nacimiento River. They showed us lion tracks made 2 days ago when snow on ground. Several times saw bobcat tracks on road. One old droppings that Bill thought were puma. He said puma droppings often had rough fragments bones, whereas coyote had stronger digestion & no rough fragments. He thought smell depended on what eaten, & that pig tasted smelled worst in droppings. / We saw tracks large boar on road. Few deer tracks, many less coyote & fox tracks than coyote tracks on road. Bill said puma often just crosses road, but depends on lay of land. He said scratches and droppings more likely on side trails, deer trails, as puma shy. He said that they saw 5 sets fresh dropp tracks in driving loop of 30 miles a few days ago. / Larry said that a man in Palo Alto (mentioned to me by Jeff Brant) [= Framhold] had accumulated many notes, measurements, photos of puma, tho Larry had not seen these yet. / The main method today was slow driving, one man looking out & down on each side for tracks. Occasionally stopped at wide flat place, saddle, or natural crossing, to look for tracks. Occasionally let dogs run on road ahead of car. At one point, let dogs chase apparent bobcat up rock ledges. / Dee said track should be less than 3 hrs. old for dogs to follow it (tho same some hunters claimed 12 10 hrs.). Bill gets $25/day + 14¢/mi. + $100 per lion treed in this operation; this rate much lower than others charge. Larry said previous hunters paid by funds from Missouri Mizuri Safari (?).

Bill Douglas - F & wildl.? Isabella

Steve Mather - Hunter-Trapper supervisor, USFWS
Nelson - " " Eureka

Werder - F & G, Fresno (head G. warden ?)
Had worked w. Bruce

Cherie Lohr - unit mgr. nr. entrance - good
info (Larry S. says).

Journal (Puma Inventory)

28 Nov. 1973 Wed. Monterey Co., Calif.

Larry said that in June - July they found tracks at lower level, on the flat among Valley Oaks on HAL MR. He said that they had found only one lion kill in study area, since start in June. Now restricting study to part of total area, N. of Middle Ridge & E. of the summit ridge. Bill said he saw a small lion on paved F-Racing road, about 2000-3000', a few evenings ago. Yesterday, Larry was near Coe park near Gilroy, where puma reported to have killed a calf, but cat did not return during 3? days. Next week, Bill Ferachon of F&G, Fresno, coming to Big Sur to demonstrate trapping techniques. Larry still thinks many pumas in Kaweah area, E. of Three Rivers. Basic, boundaries & bounty records. He said the Palo Alto man (Butler ? & Fr.?) had looked up Jay Bruce diaries, visited old localities, found sign there. Larry said that Sue W. had scent, produced at Manhattan Beach, made of blend of mt. lion urines. Hunsaker had sent them tape recording of sounds of captive puma. We returned to camp area about 1 p.m., the end of their field work for the day. We soon took leave & drove to Jolon, thence on to Bradley, Paso Robles, Shandon, San Luis Ob. Co. & I. McMillan Ranch. Clear & comfortable today, not cold. Ian said that he had quit Defenders of Wildlife at Tucson meeting, mainly over misrepresentations of their land acquisition program. Quail reproduction high this year, % juveniles highest in drier areas to E., around 80%. Some apparently hatched in October. Ian thinks disappearance of burrowing owls and Swainson hawks correlated w. use of pesticides. Said 1080 treatment available on request, owner paying cost of plane. Much area W. side of Castle Mtn. poisoned recently. Clear night.

29 Nov. 1973 Thurs. Again talked w. Ian McMillan about quail, roosts,

Journal

29 Nov. 1973. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

quail predators, other matters. Then drove via Avenal wildlife area and Navajo Camps to Pozo. / Talked w. Bob La Rue of USFS. He said his family had ranch near Alpine, San Diego Co. About 1970 a fire on Indian Reservation near there. Afterward UCSD made study, found pumas present. He said pumas also near Loveland Lake, and on E. slope crest of Laguna range. / Talked w. John Blake, USFS, rancher, and bird photographer. He said puma reported below camps on Hi Mtn. LO road a few years ago. He said condor or 2 seen in area occasionally, & reported from Baretrap canyon early in year. The Hi Mtn. LO (?) had seen none all season. / Talked w. H. Grieman, USFS Santa Maria, by telephone. He said he had current reports puma spotted. Wanted advice on road closures for wildlife protection. All 4 w.d. drive roads on Los Padres in S.L.O. co. closed this year, presumably for erosion protection. / Drove then to Avenales Ranch. Saw gp. seven deer under big oaks in bottom. Talked with Cliff Hudson, foreman. He said had seen about 6 big buck deer since deer season. He & wife said over 100 deer can be seen between locked gate & ranch in bottom, at early or late time of day. He said he had found blood & drag marks of freshly killed deer near locked gate, recently, & suspected lion kill. He said coyotes often heard near house at night. Many hawks present, some after quail. No recent obs. of pumas. / We drove on up to microwave sta., stopping to look at flats, turnouts, saddles, trails, for puma sign. Saw tracks coyote, bobcats (less), deer, but no puma until about 100 yds. before upper metal gate (2800'). Then one puma track, w. clear pad, in wet clay of road (presumed Hindfoot): 70 mm. long, pad 45 wide + 40 long. Proceeded to top. Found deer, coyote, bobcat tracks only. Apparently rain a few days ago. Descended then to metal gate, about 2500', & drove a few hundred

reports.

track — ♀ + size

Journal

<u>29 Nov. 1973</u> Arevales Ranch, <u>San Luis Obispo</u> Co., Calif.

yds. N., to where parked on previous visit. We walked out ridge trail to N. for an hour, to beyond area of puma "scratch" seen before, but saw no puma tracks, tho many of coyote and several patches of excellent tracking ground (damp fine sand) w. many coyote + even quail prints. Returned to near main Pilitas road + camped. Clear nite. Wind day but died in evening.

<u>30 Nov. 1973</u>. Breeze + partly cloudy. Inspected for 500 yds. to N. on ridge trail; no puma tracks. Drove down road to ranch houses. Cliff H. told of finding blood & a few deer parts near locked gate recently, but did not find carcass (lion? coyote?). He said deer gathered in that area in late fall. He told of another deer found killed in general area of road S. of locked gate. / We drove via Kennel Cr. to locked gate on <u>Branch Mtn.</u> road, stopping at favorable spots & observing many coyote and deer tracks, some bobcat. Last 3 mi. of road fairly good for tracks. Hiked up dirt road to <u>Branch Mtn.</u> LO, 3773'. Took me ~~3~~ 2 hrs. up, 1 down. Coyote tracks on way and at top, but no puma sign. Lookout not manned now. A small shack w. stove + bed there, in addition to tower. / Then returned 3 mi. & went up PG+E power line road for 4 mi., stopping at good tracking spots. Found no puma tracks. But coyote, deer, fox. Mostly oak grassland slopes, but chaparral near. May be better when dry and dusty. Returned downhill because of strong cold winds; cumulo-stratus clouds. / Drove back to hdqtrs., then to locked gate. Saw 3 deer under valley oaks near gate, but few others. Acorn crop gone? Continued on back to <u>McMillan ranch</u>, arriving well after ~~dark~~ dark. Saw 3 <u>cottontails</u> within 5 yds. in thistles & brush above McMillan house, no others. One jackrabbit, 1 mouse, on road through Senton's canyon. / Strong wind continued on into night. Big ♂ <u>woodrat</u> taken in traps in old McM. house.

#32
Pilitas
… Branch Mtn.
12 m.

Bob Lewis - La Panza Ranch (J. Blake)

Palm Bros. - Carrizo Ranch -
(I. McMillan)

Journal

1 Dec. 1973 To Berkeley, Calif.

Conferred w. Ian McMillan again. He thinks this yr. rainfall record, so far. Recommended Carrizo Ranch (Palm Bros.) for cooperation. Starker L. will visit, re quail project, about Dec. 15. / Roads slick & muddy. Gary & I drove via highway #5 to Berkeley. On W. edge San Joaquin Valley, saw apparent Amer. Rough-leg hawk over plains (dark under bend wings, white base tail). Previous day saw Ferruginous Hawk about 6 mi. ~~E.~~ W. of I. McMillans, on ~~Spring~~ Canyon Ranch (flat, cultivated & grazing). Sheep flock about 1000 on ~~Spring~~ Canyon Ranch (alfalfa?), & 2 more about 1 mile E. of Shandon. / Dave Bradford returned from 4 days on Sierra N.F. - no puma tracks found, but coyote, bobcat, deer.

8 Dec. 1973 Sat. To Shasta Co., Calif.

Pollard Flat

9 Dec. 1973. La Moine road

Journal

9 Dec. 1973. Shasta N.F., Calif.

Kodak

Budweiser Gap

Journal

9 Dec. 1973. Shasta N. F., Calif.

Jim Ward – Sims [illegible]

Inventor, Old Shasta, [illegible]

[illegible]

Journal

10 Dec. 1973. Mt. Shasta, Calif.

11 Dec. 1973, [illegible] Stuhl, [illegible] [illegible] Mt. Shasta. He had no info on pumas. Said [illegible] all around + up + down Shasta, [illegible] [illegible]. Now [illegible] 75 yrs. old. / [illegible] Harry [illegible], [illegible] game warden. He had no specific info on pumas. Said possibly on Mtn Springs [illegible] area, [illegible] coming down from [illegible] Ridge to E. Also said supposed to be above "country club" (=McCloud River Club?). Most experience on McCloud side of Shasta. Rivers / Stuhl said he found dead antelope at 14000' on Mt. Shasta. Skeleton in S.F. Acad. Sciences. / Bob [illegible], FCO, called oldtimer Paul Queenan, who also had no original information.

Berkeley

cKoford

Journal

11 Dec. 1973. Shasta N.F., Calif.

Mt. Bradley,

IN

12 Dec. 1973.

[illegible] Snowing & blowing. / Returned to
R.S. Again went in truck w. Bob Bennerly [illegible]
& up [illegible] road (off [illegible] rd.); [illegible]
road about 5 miles to [illegible] creek [illegible], [illegible]
[illegible] N.F. [illegible]
in little snow [illegible] at 2100'; 4-6" at 2200'; 2300-
2350' [illegible]
2600'; 2700' [illegible], 2100' [illegible]

Journal

12 Dec. 1973 Shasta N.F., Calif.

Koda.

Journal

13 Dec. 1973. Thurs. Mt. Shasta, Calif.

K

50 mm. ocean pad.

w-1 hr

w-3

Sm-3 mi

14 Dec. 1973. Friday. With Bob Benkosky, took snowmobile out to S. Fork of Sacramento River about 1 mi. W. of Siskiyou Lake, + put snowmobile out on about 6" snow on road. Foggy low over-cast but not snowing. Wet snow. Many deer tracks in initial area,

Journal

14 Dec. 1973 - Shasta N.F., Calif.

but quickly decreased as ascended. Only squirrel tracks beyond bridge. Continued on to well over 4000', about 5 miles from start. No tracks coyotes or bobcats found. Returned to lower area, about 3500', where most deer tracks, but found no fresh tracks carnivores. Returned to R.S. In afternoon, Bob took us in 4 w d truck to the Gold Gilson - Highland Lake rd. (13½ mi. up) & we drove up it. About 5 homes scattered 2000-2500'; & deer tracks in area, but now below snowline in pine conifer flattish zone. Then up more steeply. Much rock in & around road. Patches snow at 3000' and deer tracks every few yards (P.Pine, I.Cedar, manzanita). 3200', fairly continuous snow on road. Stopped often to examine tracks. One set bobcat ascending slope, but no coyote tracks seen (tho similar level to Shotgun Cr.). Truck made it to 3900' in about 10" snow. I walked on up to 4050' (altimeter) & found one deer ~~track~~ track line there, but essentially stopped below 4000'. Steep slope so many small patches ground bare (deer food?). Saw one doe 3500', another 2500'. Possible elk track & droppings 3500'. Good road for census work. [Jerry Harmon, USFS, had mentioned puma tracks near Highland Lake.] Increasingly rainy. Returned to Mt. Shasta R.S. Departed in evening for Berkeley, as more rain predicted for tomorrow again!

(2 hrs track search)

Tr W - A m
C - A

To Monterey Co., Calif.

30 Dec. 1973. Departed Berkeley noon w. Ralf Koford and Peter Stein, Forestry jr. student, to look for puma tracks on Los Padres N.F. Overcast day. Drove S. on Highway 101 to King City, thence to Jolon & Hunter Liggett MR hdqtrs, & up Nacimiento road to summit, where camped at about 2700 ft. Flocks of Brewer blackbirds on lower plains about 1000'. Saw no deer on way.

Journal

20 Dec. 1973 To Los Padres N.F., Monterey Co.
Arrived after dark & found 2 parties, apparently band-tailed pigeon hunters, at Nacimiento camp.

21 Dec. 1973. Fri. Heard no owls night. Departed camp about 0730 and drove slowly out Cone Peak road, looking for puma tracks; about 5% of road trackable, especially where silt washed to inside edge of curves. Cart, Car, foot, & dog tracks of hunters spoiled good tracking & rain commenced, then increased. Continued on past trail start (to Cone Pk., 2 mi.) and went beyond to turnaround, not end of road, about 6.5 mi. from Ferguson-Nacim. road. Along road saw about 5 deer track sets only, no puma. / Drove about a mile S. on ridge road, to show boys the country. Rain continued. So drove down to HLMR hdqtrs. Found Michael Strand on leave. Still raining. So drove S. to Paso Robles. Found car oil gone, apparently because of bent filter.) Then east to Shandon & Sam McMillan ranch, where enjoyed usual hospitality from May & Sam. / Talked quail, pumas, other matters. Then went to old house for the night. / Shot 3 cottontails; adult ♂ w. testis about 5 mm. long, ♀ w. 3 embryos about 6 cms., + ♀ w. 3 embryos 15 mm. Breeding late in year! Grass green & short. A few hundred quail in fed flock by days house in evening. / Sam said no bobcats this year tho many last year. Wood rat in snap traps at old house. Rain increased & continued after dark.

22 Dec. 1973. Sat. Rain stopped early morning. Departed McM. ranch & drove via highway 58 to Pozo road, Queen Bee camp, and road to Pine Springs where locked gate. Hiked up road toward Pine Springs (2 mi.) looking for puma tracks. Found fox tracks lower road, later bobcats and coyote. Perhaps 5 bobcats +

Journal

22 Dec. 1973. Los Padres N.F., San L. Ob. Co.

5 coyotes in all, tho one or two each could have made the tracks. Much good tracking ground in wet silt on road, but no sign puma or bears. Occasional deer tracks. Saw no rabbits or squirrels, no condors, eagles, falcons. / Ralf descended to Pine Springs, Peter went S. on ridge, & I toward American Canyon about a mile, but no sign pumas. / Day started sunny, became overcast. / We returned to front road & drove back to McMillan ranch. Saw one juv. golden eagle on fresh jackrabbit carcass near road west of Canyon Ranch, a few hundred yds. from old eagle nest. Usual hundreds of quail gathered around S. McMillan house, where he scatters grain for them.

about 5 hrs. road search.

W-10

To Berkeley

23 Dec. 1973. Briefly visited w. May McMillan, then drove over hills to Clem McMillan place. Talked w. him about condors and other matters. Clem had been poisoning Spermophilus beecheyi near his house, w. 2040. / We drove N. in Palo Prieto canyon. Saw two adult golden eagles circling together over canyon. Then on N. up highway 5 in increasing overcast and fine rain to Berkeley. S. McMillan had said more sheep on Camp Roberts than for decades. Clem still thinks that golden eagles may inhibit condor nesting in Bear trap Canyon, S.L.O.Co.

2 Jan. 1974 Berkeley to Fresno Co. Cal.

Departed about 11 a.m. from home w. Ralf K. in U.C. truck Via highway 5 and Los Banos to Fresno. Went to get camp trailer. Then drove via Belmont av. to Trimmer & camped at Sycamore Flat. Cold frosty night.

3 Jan. 1974. Drove to Ranger sta. at Trimmer. Ranger, Resources man, out. So took trailer to Haslett Basin & parked

Journal

3 January 1974. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

near Nutmeg Creek. Then drove up Fence Mdw. road to Secata Ridge. Snow on road at 3100', more as ascended. Often stopped to examine tracks. Many of hounds, but dozens apparently coyote, and a few of bobcat. / Ron Bertram, Bill Stuart, + Ron — of F+G arrived to check deer traps. They had seen no puma sign since last summer. Stuart said once saw small one E. of Secata Ridge, about 1 mile out. Smallish. / He suggested spurs S. of Rodgers Ridge again, going up near Black Rock. Mentioned Monarch Divide, along w. Burton's Flat + nearby area, as possible site for puma. / We walked about a mile toward Fence Mdw., looking for puma tracks. Again deer, coyote, rare bobcat, occasional skunk, squirrel, cottontail, a few possible Lepus. / Returned to Secata Ridge + walked out it about 2 miles, on and near dirt road (icy, rough). 10 or more deer tracks some portions. Saw about 6 deer. Several deer traps along this route, apparently high in deer numbers now, Coyote tracks, + some bobcat; about 10 to 1, + more deer than coyote by 5-10 to 1. Several mouse tracks by some shrubs. about 4 hours walking by me (+ Ralf) and no puma tracks found. Ron said still deer as high as Fence Mdw. / I saw one ~~balld~~ bald eagle (white tail) by edge Pine Flat Reservoir. Over Secata Ridge, apparent pair of golden eagles. Saw ~~about~~ several Mt. Quail. Flock about 30 band-tailed pigeons near Ranger Sta. at Trimmer. F+G men said houndsmen have been in area. / Sunny morning, increasingly overcast, but no snow by dark. Drove 1 mile up Big Creek rd. Saw one

ckofad

Journal

3 January 1974. Sierra N. Forest, Calif.

group 6 deer on slope there. Camped Haslett Basin.

4 January 1974. About 4" new snow in morning & snowing lightly, so tracking nil. Put trailer in engineers camp. Then drove down to Pine Flat Res. & up to Kirch Flat. Looked for deer concentrations & puma tracks near flat (Salwasser said deer cross in that area). Also looked about 2 miles up road on S. side Kings R. from Rodgers Crossing, & a mile up Garnet Dike rd. (Salwasser said deer cross in Garnet Dike area). Drove on up past Balch Camp to Black Rock. Slopes snow-covered above about 2500 ft. Many deer tracks on road & near up to 3300', where crossed Patterson Cr., and few above that level, no deer tracks above Black Rock Sta. Occasional coyote tracks among deer tracks, and about one set per half mile above 3500'. Slopes steep with irregular brush, rocks, old burn, but tracks mammals rare. Some probably snowshoe hare. None surely bobcat. Good snow tracking conditions in 6" fresh snow around Black Rock, but at least one night needed for making tracks. Returned to Trimmer area & up to Haslett Basin, where snow now melted & area muddy. Hope to track at Barnes Mtn. area tomorrow on snow.

5 January 1974. Hard rain at night, then wet snow in morning & turned to drizzle. Poor tracking conditions & I had developed a cold. Hence, drove via Trimmer, Burrough Valley, Friant, Madera to Berkeley - apparently only 223 mi. this way. Around 2000' in the blue oak - grassland, common foothill type, may be poor zone for pumas.

Berkeley to S. L. Obispo Co.

19 Jan. 1974. Saturday. Departed 12 M and drove via Interst. #5 to Shandon and San McMillan ranch, 250 miles. Overcast, occasionally drizzly. San

Journal

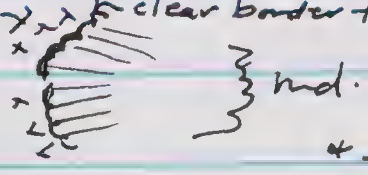
19 January 1974 Nr. Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co.

said never had ~~usual~~ usual total rain for season; wet winter. Grass green + soil under tall, ground wet. / At foot Gillis Canyon, I saw 5 Dipodomys + other small rodents in evening.

20 Jan. 1974. Some rain at night, low overcast morning. Sam said that many small mice in horehound bushes, + that when quail hunting the dogs often distracted by the mice. He had never seen such an outbreak during 20 yrs. here. We took dogs + soon drove out two Reithrodontomys from horehound clumps on slope. One ran down a 1" hole. / Behind his house, where dirt road crosses ditch, Sam showed me tracks of bobcat and of raccoon. He said once found one small bobcat kitten in Dec. / Ceiling gradually lifted, so I set out via highway 58 for La Panza area. Parked at Pozo Summit, about 2630', + hiked E. along firebreak toward Pine Springs. Trail about 4 m. wide, thru manzanita, ceanothus, chamise, scrub oak. Occas. pine tree. After about 2 hrs. I found large puma

tracks

tracks. (Earlier coyote, deer, fox, or small.) About 3200' about where secs. 3,4,9,10 join. These in mud + perhaps 1 day old. Tracks continued 100 yds. E. on trail, then went down slope into chamise as if toward Queen Bee camp. Ave. measurement 85 across (Front) toes, 65 pad. At one point I found a lion scratch, about 2' from edge cleared firebreak, in a small area of dried pine needles. Toes clearly made indentations, size of human fingers, + the two scratches converged backward to the pile. Pile about 3" of damp tan sand + 3" needles atop it. No smell urine. Scratch 8" wide front, 6" rear.



Md. about 6" x 6" plan.

2 b+w
200 f 4
100 f 4
1 Koda.
1/15

Took photos but dark + late. / I continued to E. Occasional puma tracks, less clear, for 1/4 mile, + eventually seemed to be smaller (Hind f. 70-55). Some about 300 yds. before jct. with Pine Spring jeep trail. Possibly 2 pumas. [later - probably all same] Perhaps 50 tracks seen, some in puddles

Journal

20 Jan. 1974 La Panza area, San Luis Obispo Co.

on trail. Drizzly most of time. Rare coyote tracks, perhaps one set/ 1/4 mile. Deer 1-2 sets/ 1/4 mile. / Returned on same trail & reached Pozo Summit about 7 p.m., just dark. / Driving back to ranch, hit an Otus asio with car about 10 mi W., 2 N., of Simmler, 2000'. 8 pm. Oak-grass land. Seemed to fly up from road in headlights. / Again saw a few Dipodomys by road up to Davis'. / We (w. Jan McM.) talked quail - weather this year like last, so apparently 2 good years in a row! Multiple breeding seems to be rule here. /

21 Jan. 1974. Nearly clear morning. So drove via #58, Navajo Creek, Pozo summit, to Avenales Ranch (35 mi., McM's to gate). Over Salinas R., 1 mile NW of hdqrarters, I saw a bald eagle w. white head & tail. / Drove up Pilitas road to wire gate about 2600'. Checked various turnouts but no puma sign. Walked NW on trail & firebreak. Searched under rotting oak branches under blue oaks in grass on slopes & found 2 Batrachoseps under one branch (Sec. 8, T31S, R17E), about 3000'. About 3 mi. SE of Machesna mtn. / Rather cold & windy. No puma tracks in good tracking sites where seen last fall. About 1:35 crossed head of trail 16E04 to W. There large area, a sq. mi. or more, open oak grassland on slopes. Trail zigged to W. then zagged back to ridge, passing small lake of Machesna Spr. & clear running creek w. horizontal rock ledges sandstone. No puma tracks. Some deer & coyote tracks ridge, but few. Once saw 2 golden eagles soaring together in wind over brush. / I returned to Pilitas road & descended. At Avenales G.S., heard great horned owl in evening. Wind at x during night.

TN w-5
c-1
none

22 Jan. 1974. Tues. Clear, calm, light frost in spots at guard sta. Departed 0800. Went to American Canyon & explored side trails. Deer & coyote tracks often ~~in a~~ here. Fresh bobcat track in creek sand. / I searched for salamanders under fallen branches oaks & sycamore and found about 20 in all, 1200 to 1400' elev., on flats or up to

Journal

22 Jan. 1974 — Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co.

20% slopes. Soil termes a Jerusalem cricket under the log. Took one shrink Cunnexus under one log. Saved all for MVZ. | Road to Amer. Can. camp blocked at 1½ miles by fallen tree; herps taken above that. | Hiked up trail toward Pine Spring. Adenostoma chaparral started 1700 ft. Heard Mt. Quail in chaparral. Clear, warm in sun. Ascended to 2300'. Found several fresh coyote or other scats but no puma sign. Common, deer tracks. | Returned to car. Drove to Avenales G.S. Phoned Harley Greiman, USFS. Then to Hudson's house - wife said no new puma news. | Then on to ~~La~~ Kamel ~~Machos~~ creek road. Much cattle tracked to Sheep Creek & beyond. But better beyond La Machos creek. ~~On~~ Road blocked by fallen tree before locked gate. Walked on toward Branch Mtn. L.O. ~~Went~~ Went into Buckhorn ranch & had gone about 100 m. uphill when found about 10 12" pace. puma tracks in trail made before rain, & pale grey sand had washed in; probably a few days old. Pad (Front) about 65 wide, toes spread 80-85. | I continued up to 2000' level, then back down & drove back to ranch hdqtrs. | Mrs. McClellan (sp.?), here 20 yrs, said had heard people talk about puma tracks but thought that no one had actually seen one. | Bear droppings & med. sized adult track near the Buckhorn R. entrance; perhaps 1 week old. | At night saw no rabbits or rodents or birds on road. | G. eagle - saw one about 2 p.m. about 1 mile NW of headquarters, flying. Flocks of 10± ravens seen at times. Quail coveys 20-40 in rather open cover.

23 Jan. 1974. Wed. Thin cirrus clouds, mod. wind. Not frosty. Left Avenales G.S. 0800 & drove ~~up~~ Agua Escondido road; thru locked gate, then to Stony Cr. This mainly thru oak-grassland of canyon bottom, slopes to S (of Pine Ridge) mostly live oaks, to N. mostly chamise chaparral. ~~Saw~~ About 12 campsites at S.C. camp. A mile farther on, road started to descend, so I turned back. Parked near S.C. camp

Journal

23 Jan. 1974 Avenales Ranch San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

and hiked up firebreak to NE, about 40 min. to ridgetop at 2700'. This a chamise ridge w. east firebreak about 4 m. wide. Ground rocky & poor for tracks. Fine views all around. I found rare deer tracks & coyote scats. Probably bobcat too. Walked about 1/2 mile N. to tallest peak. Took b+w photos. No puma sign. But must ridge to inspect & some ascending trails. Brown thrashers in chamise. / I returned to truck & drove out thru Avenales again. Again saw one golden eagle, about 3 mi. NW of headquarters (nesting?) / Drove to Shandon. Shopped. Cholame for gasoline. Then to Ed McMillan's, but not home. Returned to I McM. ranch.

b+w

24 Jan. 1974. More talk with Ian. Saw 1 marsh hawk, ferruginous hawk, apparent rough-leg, over quail foraging grassland N. of house. / Found 5 ± Batrachoseps in wet hay under corrugated steel plates near windmill by Ian's house. / Telephoned Sacramento F+G, but Weaver & MacGregor absent. / Drove to Jolon - Strand had left Hunter Liggett for job elsewhere / Searched Nacimiento road for Sitta, w/o success. On flat of Hunter Liggett, about 1000', most large decid. oaks surrounded by broken branches, ~~some~~ many 6" or larger in diameter, caused by snowstorm about 10 days ago. Men still clearing road to summit, now lined with fallen branches of live oaks, bay, sycamore. Nacimiento Camp cluttered with fallen branches. Many fallen trees on slopes. apparently was a heavy wet snow, possibly accompanied by wind. I saw hundreds of Spilosoma beecheyi squirrels running across road on HLMR and in grassland among oaks nearby. Warm day for season. / Looking for S. Mather, I drove up Arroyo Seco road to Sta. Lucia Mem. Park, at Indians guard sta. No luck. But road enters very rough sandstone ledge (Vaqueros form.) mixed w. conifers & brush & oaks,

C-2
W-1

Journal

24 Jan. 1974. Monterey Co. Calif.

near Wagon Camp + to The Indians. Road on to N. rough dirt w. washed ruts. So I turned back thru HLMR + King City, back to Berkeley. Arr. 10 pm

1 Feb. 1974. Monterey

went to meeting local section Wildl. Society, attended by many wildlifers + fish & game men. ASL gave keynote talk, mentioning Mrs. Owings + puma moratorium. / Chuck Graves (F+G, Chico) said had seen (when?) adult + cub mt.-mill at about 2000'. / Dave Kelly house, Humboldt St. student who had worked on bears in Trinity Co., mentioned a location (near a lake) in Trinity alps where tracks seen, + had heard of possible others. Willing to help locally. / Dan Garber, USFS biologist at Eureka, said few reports puma from Doug. fir region, but thought an area near Orleans promising. / Dave Dunaway, USFS biologist of Inyo N.F., said few reports there, but some old lion hunters in area could be helpful. White Mtns. per perhaps best. / Mike McCallum, houndsman Arcata area, now Crater Lake N.P., should have info, fide Archie Mossman. / Another sound Jerry Meneghan (Phil Aaron knows), Walnut Cr. area now. / Jim Yoakum mentioned Jerry Page, at Winnemucca, as lion hunter with much experience. / W. MacGregor said 80 lb. lion recently shot near El Capitan near S. Barbara. (In addition to one from San Marcos P. area - car killed, badly skinned, now SB museum.) / Larry Sitton said two men, (Bill Butler + Mike Fromhold) from Palo Alto (rec. by Brant) now helping to catch puma in Monterey Co. He said they showed him 6 scratches on pass near Lions Den. Said they had treed 2 pumas, but late in day. Apparently they had good dogs including some from Steve Mather. They worked for $400/lion, rather than on daily basis, & were hunting this weekend. / Also talked w. Harley Greiman, USFS Santa Maria, M. Gardner of Sequoia N.P., + others. Returned to Berkeley.

[illegible] Sierra [illegible] Ecology
10/13 Pet. of ML S

Bank.	0	lv. 11 a.m.
Oriole jct.	10	
Dublin jct.	23	
#5 jct.	53	
#15a jct.	115	
Madera	169	
Trimmers.	228	
Dinu Cr. rd.	237	
Haslett camp	249	

Stops

RX 1. Opp. Lodge → [illegible] [illegible] Red Blue C.

2. " " [illegible] [illegible] Haslett

3. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Journal

1 February 1979. Monterey, Monterey Co. Calif.
Sitton also said that 2 dead [illegible] had been found on
their study area, one being at Alder camp. He reported that
the Palo Alto [illegible] said they had traced the old fox [illegible] with
and some [illegible], had omitted the [illegible], and found
[illegible] at all. [illegible] & [illegible].

4 February. Departed Berkeley 11 a.m., & drove via Los
Banos and Madera, Fresno, Burrough Valley to Trimmer
R.S. & Haslett Basin. Clear calm day. Grass green now.

5 Feb. Drove up Big Creek road to [illegible], then [illegible]
[illegible] road to B.C. campground, up slope to [illegible]
[illegible] ([illegible]). Clear [illegible], slight frost. [illegible]
[illegible] to [illegible]. [illegible]
and [illegible] coyote droppings on road.
Good [illegible], little [illegible], & [illegible] clouds from W.
Continued on road to [illegible]. Few [illegible], but some
dog or coyote. [illegible], [illegible] & [illegible],
[illegible] to B.C. camp. [illegible], with old snow on ground, but
little [illegible] on 7000' [illegible]. On B.C. road I picked up
three salamanders (T. torosa) walking on road. (But [illegible]
going up [illegible].) Walked up [illegible] on [illegible] - coyote tracks &
deer. Returned to Haslett Basin, arriving 5 p.m. All [illegible]. [illegible]
Foot. 12 mi. at night. Walked 12 mi. [illegible] for [illegible].

6 Feb. 1979. [illegible] at night. Frosty [illegible], about
1" snow above 3500'. I drove up [illegible] rd. to [illegible]
[illegible] Ridge, [illegible]. Many [illegible] on [illegible] road.
[illegible] on upper road. [illegible] 2-3 [illegible] at
4000'. [illegible] 3400' and 3800' [illegible]

Journal

6 Feb. 1974 [illegible] Nr. [illegible], Sierra N.F. [illegible]

snow. Tracks [illegible] over a ridge, [illegible] 4000'

[illegible] deer tracks [illegible]

[illegible] 1 mi. [illegible] of Lookout, about [illegible]'

but no deer tracks, tho 2 lines coyote fairly [illegible] and

mouse, fox tracks. Mixed conifer [illegible]; [illegible] 1" [illegible]

road to LO 11:45, 7300'. Clear, calm. Continued on ½ mile [illegible]

[illegible] areas [illegible] coyote, squirrel,

mouse. Turned back & took road to LO - [illegible] tracks, the

old deep tracks, [illegible]. Arrived LO 1:30, 5 [illegible]' Calm, dry.

Walked S. down ridge on trail. First deer tracks (1 deer) 5000'. [illegible]

road & down to camp arriving 4 p.m. About 5000' [illegible]

[illegible] occasionally [illegible] folded. Most [illegible] from

lower road. / Walked about 13 mi. looking for [illegible] tracks.

7 Feb. 1974. Thurs. Frosty, clear. Drove to Big [illegible] gate; [illegible]

[illegible] 150 [illegible] coyote tracks [illegible]

p.m.). Took road for Rattling Saddle, 0930. [illegible] coyote tracks ([illegible]

[illegible], 25 [illegible]), [illegible] deer tracks. Saw 2 deer [illegible] 3100' ([illegible]

[illegible]), W slope. [illegible] 27

[illegible]). More deer higher. about [illegible] coyote, [illegible] mouse. Rabbit
(others later.)

again. Wet sandy [illegible] good for tracks. Sunny slopes. 4500'

still [illegible] deer, 3-4 coyote, on road. [illegible]

[illegible] of [illegible]. Deer tracks stop about 4600'

[illegible] ¼ mile to Rattling Saddle. muddy there ([illegible]).

Snow [illegible] light breeze. [illegible]

[illegible]. A pair of [illegible]. / I walked ½ mi. [illegible]

road to 5100'. about 1" [illegible] snow; no fresh tracks, [illegible]

old coyote. Back to [illegible] road. ([illegible]) and [illegible] 2.00

[illegible] Ky. - Tracks in snow (2 [illegible]

Journal

2 Feb. 1979 — Nutmeg Saddle area, Sierra N.F., Calif.

[illegible]

[illegible] 1400, found [illegible] track [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] (leading S.). [illegible]

[illegible] (third) [illegible]

(Front) [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] saddle, coyote [illegible]

[illegible]

Started back 1450. [illegible] 1530 [illegible]

[illegible] 1605, at Nutmeg Saddle. [illegible] coyote, bobcat + deer tracks, [illegible] Texas [illegible] camp. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Ridge last summer; [illegible] Ron Burton [illegible]

track near Indian Rock on road [illegible]

3 Feb. 1979. [illegible] 5½

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

ck
d or size

3 KX - [illegible]

(But sounds in area.)

9 Feb. 1974. Sat. Clear, no frost, calm. Prepared to leave. Drove to Serita Ridge, 7 mi. from Haslett camp, 3700'. Slowly descended dirt road to Balch Camp, often stopping to look for tracks. Few deer tracks except some areas in canyons. 1-2 coyote trails often. Gradual descent in oak-grassland. Fence Mdw. Ridge 3679 then steeper down to Balch Camp. Some muddy sections & fair tracking, but no puma sign found. I went to Kirch Flat, then via Trimmer and Fresno to Berkeley, arriving 9 p.m. / Bertram group told me of recent report puma sign on lower Banner Mtn. rd.; (Big Creek area). Inventoric study they had found no definite lion kills, tho many dead deer. / John Davis reported puma shot near Hastings Res. (Carmel Valley) on Feb. 5.

C - 9 mi.

Shandon, San L.O. Co.

13 Feb. 1974. With Suzanne, departed Berkeley about 12 noon and drove via highway no. 5. to Cholame, thence to J McM. Ranch. No rain there since a few weeks ago. Country green & growing, but flowers none yet. Cold.

14 Feb. 1974. Talked with Sam and May McM. about an hour. Then drove via

Journal

14 February 1974 Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

La Panza area to Pozo station, then to Avenales Ranch and up Pilitas road to highest gate. Parked and walked N. up and along ridge. Thousands of Dodecatheon in bloom on grassy open slopes & under leafless oaks on hills. Found one Batrachoseps under rotting blue oak limb on ground. / Abund. coyote tracks on the trail and road and firebreak, almost always tracks in sight on good ground. But no puma tracks. Deer - saw small groups in grassland and usually one - 3 sets tracks on firebreak - may have moved up since colder earlier weather. / Clear today and cold breeze from E. Went N. to head Machesna trail, about 3 mi., then returned to car. / Drove up toward microwave station, stopping at intervals to search road edges for tracks. .7 mi N of station, I found puma tracks in dried mud on open ground at side of road, near a minor dip. Several tracks & I made plaster cast of one. About 65 mm. pad, 80 across toes, but measurement poor on rough surface. / At 5:30 p.m., four adult condors soared N. along E. side of ridge in the E. wind, heading steadily N. as if toward Beartrap area to roost. About 5 min. later, a single one, (ad. too) lower & ½ mi. distant, headed same way. Apparently at least 4 adults here, at appropriate time for nesting! / We should do something (food?) to now induce them to stay. Cl. Mc M. thinks ~~that~~ golden eagles nesting earlier, may discourage condor nesting. / We also saw a few ravens (barrel rolls) and a few pairs of red-tailed hawks on Avenales Ranch. / Saw 4 deer one bunch about 2600' elev., grass-oaks.

cast (puma)

condors!

15 Feb. 1974. Another clear day. Warmer. Drove from Avenales R. up Stony Creek road to first summit, parked, & hiked S. along Garcia Ridge firebreak through chaparral. Deer tracks rare, about one set per quarter mile. Coyote more numerous, but not continuous. Occasional diggings as of badger. Fox and coyote scats. But apparently low density wildlife compared to Pine Mtn. ridge. / Went on to jct. with trail up from Avenales station area. Substrate mostly gravelly rocky, poor for tracks. / Back same route. Then down to roadhouse

Journal

15 Feb. 1974 — Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co.

and talked w. Cliff Hudson & w. John Arnold of Pozo (his father had feet of the puma found dead there last fall; a ♀, "dry" he (JA) said. No bullet found in it. / Hudson had various puma stories, including one of female w. 3 kittens who made rounds thru sheep country from Wones to Painted Rock, about 100 ~~yds.~~ mi. dis... / He said puma reported several times when PG&E constructing power line. He said saw one briefly from road to Santa Margarita, near the green bridge, a few months ago. Arnold knew of no others in his area. Both thought Rich Ranch might have some rumors or reports. They suggested Balm-of-Gilead c/3 area as having many deer, possibly pumas. / We left and drove toward ~~Lookout~~ Kennel creek & Branch Mtn. LO. Much drier than during my last visit — my footprints still clear. About 100 m. after turnoff from P.G.&E road to ridge (to E.), stopped car to examine roadside & immediately saw fresh puma tracks in dust. These extended for about 100 yds. along road (surface hard beyond) in oak-grassland, but chaparral, rocky, & streambed within 200 m. I cast one track in plaster. About 2000' elev. Cat stride 23", lead 7". In softest deep dust, tracks measured 57-87 mostly, with some to 65-66 pad width. Others with pad 53-55, toes 77-81 mm across. I measured perhaps 30 tracks. On fairly hard surface, some only 50 mm pad - 77 toes, or 52-80. While larger to 67-95, 60-90, 65- (¼" dust, soft). Toe widths variable, much more than pad. Hindfoot pad apparently 50-53, forefoot 60-62 on harder ground. Need good clear casts for valid identification, I think. / Went on up road, thru gate, to pond. Walked up Lookout trail about a mile - ground washed, fairly hard, whitish. Found old bear tracks and my old footprints, but no more puma sign. Returned to ranch headquarters. Think road to LO area along Kennel creek very good for tracks as unsurfaced and fairly level w. fine sandy dust surface.

(compare photos & cast w Peria R. 67)

ad 67. / 52 mm

1 X = tracks in dust

W - 2 tracks dust
1 dot area

Journal   Calif.

16 Feb. 1974.   Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co.,

about 1/2 overcast, cumulo-stratus, but calm. Went to start of ~~road~~ trail w. to

~~17 Feb. 1974.~~ Caldwell Mesa (starts w. of American Canyon), parked, & hiked w. on jeep trail. Thru digger pine, oak grassland, into chamise chaparral. Up to ridge at Sellar's Potrero. Moderate nos. coyote scats on trail, but few deer tracks. Along ridge to N, but hard packed by mules. So descended to trail toward Caldwell Mesa. In bottom, thick w. large live oaks. Collected a few Batrachoseps under rotten wood, and one small Taricha. Flowing stream. Trails poor for tracks. At 1125, at fork upslope to W. ascended about 15 min. to a low broad pass, about 2600'. Then descended toward Stony Creek down canyon which broke through Garcia Mtn. Clear running stream, rocky. Conglomerate rocks, in part. Rock outcrops from brush on slopes (good for falcon nests?). Mixed vegetation – live oak, chamise, occasional ceanothus (some in full white bloom), ferns. No puma or deer sign in this narrow canyon. After about a mile, trail ascended slope to N. to well above stream. I continued on about 1/2 mile, to where could see large oak-grass meadow about 1 mi. W. Then started back E. Occasional black bear droppings on trail, probably weeks old. Saw Lophortyx quail. Back at pass 1410. Good spot for tracking bed preparation. Only coyote scat there. Returned to Sellars Potrero and Avenales Road. Brief light rainshower about noon. / Went to Smith house, 1/2 mi. N. of Avenales sta., & surveyed road (car + walk) toward Machesna Mtn. Road thru hilly oak-grassland to cattle water area and to near a firebreak ascending Machesna. Then to Avenales sta. and walked 1/4 mile up trail 16E06; starts in oak-grassland and gradually into steep chaparral slopes. / Saw 3 turkey vultures circling near Sellars Potrero (returning from migration?). Hiked about 6 mi. today. No puma sign.

[Margin notes:] spec. salam.

x reached ~~to 4 mi~~ w-6 mi

AA KX – red flower

Journal

17 Feb. 1974 Sunday — Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co.

Drove up to Los (Kennel) Machos creek, where fresh puma tracks seen 15 Feb., but found no fresh tracks puma, only coyote. Clear cool day. Then returned N. thru Avenales Ranch to American Canyon & up to campground. Thence hiked up trail toward Pine Spring. Mostly gravelly so poor for tracks, but coyote and fox droppings, coyote tracks, and constant one or more sets deer tracks, in favorable sites. Chamise and manzanita mostly. Upon nearing Castle Rock Spring at about 3700' after 2 hrs. walk, found faint puma tracks in trail. Then others to 200 yds. beyond spring on trail. Best track, in dried thin mud, 1/8" impression, measured 63 mm (Front) pad and 83 across toes, apparently forefoot (as other a few inches ahead). Track may have been 2 wks. old or more – I had not been on this section trail for months. / Saw no eagles, but 3 turkey vultures over Salinas River near mouth American Canyon – returning migrants? / Drove back to McMillan Ranch. Talked with Sam and May in evening. Saw one kingbird & heard it singing in yard of the old house. No recent rain here. Fed quail by hundreds near Sam's house.

track

prob. same as 07.
est. Hp 55

18 Feb. 1974. Monday, holiday. Talked w. Sam. Told me of meeting w. USFS to plan offroad vehicle use in Sta. Lucia district – could affect condors, pumas, other wildlife. / Gassed up at Cholame. Returned to ranch. Clear calm sunny day, tho frosty morning. Office & housework.

19 Feb. 1974. Drizzle, rain, wind. Remained at McM. Ranch. Cleared in afternoon. Drove to Fernandez Spring & Portuguese Canyon area, W. of highway 58, and searched for tracks near edge grassland. Considerable human tracks & use.

To Pine Mountain, San Luis Ob. Co.

20 Feb. 1974. Clear, high visibility. Frosty morning. Drove to Queen Bee Camp, left car foot of Pine Springs rd. Hiked up road. Coyote & bobcat tracks on it. Upon reaching crest at F12/F30 sign, found tracks puma, perhaps several days old. Soft ground in firebreak trail. I walked about 3/4 mile N. on ridge to site where tracks found Jan. 20. Tracks remained clear in hardened

Journal

20 Feb. 1974 Pine Mtn., S.L.O. Co., Calif.

KX-tracks

muddy spots. Old scratch still clear, though toe marks gone. No new tracks in that area. Returned to pt. where road reached ridge, (hairpin turn to S) 4 1/2 mi. from Pine Spr. camp. Found puma tracks in soft ground ridge trail 100 yds. to S. One 93 - 65 pad - 90 long (center heel to tip toe 2) in 10 mm deep soft sand. / This is first time I have found repeat of tracks in about same area (by the F12 sign). / Walked S. deer tracks - usually only one set on trail. Same w. coyote. To about 1/4 mi. S. of hairpin, found ocasa. tracks. Cast one in wax (1/4" sandy, going downslope - 62p - 89 toe). Farther

cast

S, usually only 1 deer or coyote set in chaparral area. / Sierra Nevada + Pine Mtn, all snow capped, visible. Cirrus clouds only, 10 mph wind from E. / Saw no condor sign on cliffs of Beartrap Canyon. / About 1/4 mile N. of sign at fork to Pine Spr. Camp (1/2 mi.), on trail atop highest ridge (open low chamise), (near F17 orange sign ▽) about 10 puma tracks, again perhaps a week or + old. One 58 pad - 90 toe - 95 long. Another, 57 pad (H), 65 pad (front ft.) (F). Heading S., soft ground. / Many more deer tracks on trails close to oak-grassland meadows - perhaps 12 sets in 3 m. trail. / Did not descend to P.S. camp. Pushed to SE to meadow had more puma tracks, heading SE - 82 toe - 57 pad (at least 3 measured there), probably hind ft. 1/4" soft surface. Stride 21", lead 6". Harder print on leading (hind) foot. Medial toe on LH ft. often weak mark. Tracks prob. 1 wk. or + old. Continued to sign at head of American Canyon (7 mi.) trail - same cat as found near Castle Rock spring? / Walked back N. same trail. A bald eagle flushed from pine near Queen Bee camp. Returned to McMillan Ranch. [Cast, track, 1/4 mile S. of hairpin at Pine Ridge].

N-1 ~ nt. (6 one way)

walked 12 mi. (n.t.).

21 Feb. 1974. Thurs. Overcast cirrus + ci stratus. Calm, warmer. Talked w. McMillans. Returned to Berkeley via highway 101.

6 March 1974. To Sierra N.F., Calif. (Fresno Co.)

Departed Berkeley 1300. Drove via Los Banos to Madera, Friant, and Trimmer R.S. (224 mi.), then 15 mi. to trailer at Haslett Basin.

Journal

7 March 1974 — Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

Houndsman - lic. no. 03 4886 Int'l Sc. II

Some rain at night, overcast morning. I drove up Big Creek road, mod. muddy. Met a new Scout II car w. hound hunter, about 40 yrs. Said he specialized bobcats. Dogs chased foxes + treed bears too. Often hunted this area. From Palm(?)dale. He said that in January, his dogs treed a large (200 lbs) puma on lower Barnes Mtn. road. Also he said recently found tracks ♀ starting 1/4 mile before Providence Cr. side road. He thought puma dens in the bluffs (above Providence Cr.) and on SW side of Barnes (rocky). He thought pumas (+ some deer) in Blue Canyon drainage year around. He had found no lion kills - dogs seldom find these - but had found coyote-killed fawn above road gate (S. of Big Creek). I did not ask his name.

Cumulo-stratus all day; light rain 4 p.m. on + drizzly night.

Ron Rempel of F+G study, said recently hiked Nutmeg saddle to Nutmeg spring + found only 2 deer tracks. Thinks deer now mostly in brush. I parked nr. start of Mt. Rest road + walked up road toward Providence Cr. - much of road w. 8±" of soft snow. Walked 1/2 mile up Prov. Cr. rd. + saw bobcat, fox, coyote tracks. Then back, + N. on road toward upper Big Creek to bridge. Essentially no tracks on latter road, all snow covered. I returned to ~~Coon~~ Mt. Rest road + walked toward Brutz Mill, across bridge, + S along E. slope of Barnes Mtn. about 2 miles on logging road. Occasional set deer tracks - perhaps every 1/4 mile. Walked some ~~cycle~~ upslope to crest, then back N + down to former road + returned to car. Drove back to Haslett B. camp. Walked 11 mi. (5 of it repeated).

8 March 1974. Friday. Drizzly nite + morning, w. fog. Drove from Haslett to Trimmer R.S., where found Bill Sleeman out on district. Returned to Haslett B. + started for Sawtooth Ridge on wet road in fog. Overtaken by Sleeman (w. Ron Bertram and Art Rohrbacher (sp.?), F+G deer study) with an ATV on truck. Road mud stopped us before Apperson Ridge. We unloaded the ATV and went up road, then on rough trail, to ridge S. of Fence Mdw. Lookout.

Journal

8 March 1974 Friday   Hslth. Basin, Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

But visibility nil. Saw occas. deer track to about 5000'; & coyote. Descended to cattleguard on road about 4500' and took trail to SE, which wound and descended about 2 miles to a heliport peak about 4700'. Still no visibility. Watching for tracks from vehicle. Returned to road, descended to Sentz Ridge, & went out ridge & Cottonwood Ridge to another heliport clearing (in sec. 12), near where Bill Stuart had reported puma sign in 1973. Returned to road and camp. / Ron Bertram gave me maps of deer migratory routes & holding grounds, largely determined from radiotracking. He said they had found one coyote-killed deer, none killed by lion. He said lion sign about 1/2 mi. S. of Dinkey Creek on [time of yr.? Could not locate him.] Dec. 13. Also that Mr. Lanatovich of Watts Valley, rancher, young puma seen 3x during last year. Bertram showed me other lion report areas including one near E end Poison Ridge (of 2 sizes; he gave me width toe measurements last August?)), one at head of Garlic Spur (of Rodgers Ridge) at end road, one report 1 mi. W. of Balch Camp, one about 1/2 mi. S. of Big Creek camp, one Sugarpine Hill, all in 1973.

9 March 1974. Sat. Clear overhead, fog in canyons. No frost; light snow on trees at 4000'. Drove to start of Nutmeg Saddle road. Walked road - surface good for tracking, and occas. snow patches. Usually a deer & coyote track set. / Snow melting and "raining" from tree branches. Some apparent dog tracks. Lion & 1C. To ridge at edge old burn. Walked to Nutmeg S. (4827' sign). Many deer tracks last 1/4 mi., in small planted pines. Fresh lines of coyote tracks. Older tracks of deer (?) - bounded 10' ·· ·. Breakable crust on about 10" snow on road; I gave up. Turned back. Walked 1/4 mile along burn contour to S (on W. slope) - coyote tracks. Back at W. edge burn, walked N. up ridge 1/4 mile - few tracks. Returned to car, arriving 1410. About 6/10 cumulus then; warm in sun. / Parked at Big Cr. camp, waded river, & walked up Bemer Mtn. road. Good mud surface. At ridge in an hour. Mod. nos. deer tracks there & coyote present; 1-2 sets deer constantly,

8 Mar.

K X 10 cottonw. helip. ⇒ Nelson Pk + FM ridge.

11 ⇒ Patt. Bluffs + w-fac. slope Syc. Cr.

Journal

9 March 1974 Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

occas. 4. Continued to summit marker + 1/4 mile beyond. Fine fresh set bobcat tracks there (1700). Walked back down road, arriving 1845. Drove back to Haslett B. camp. A few motorcycles heard & tracks seen today in area. Walked 11 mi., r.t.

10 March 1974. No rain or frost. Clear w. fog patches morning. I drove up Rush Creek road about 2 mi., where became impassable. Brush & oak woodland in canyon w. stream. Redbud shrubs starting to bloom. Rare deer or coyote tracks. Mostly surface too firm for tracks. Started walking 0945. One set coyote tr., rare deer. Reached a summit flat at 2900' (Rush Cr. 1, Bobs Flat Rd. 1 2 sign), where a few large Quercus lobata (alvordiggin person) Coll. 2 Batrachoseps under one, under rotting old pine posts. Coyote tracks. Walked on to creek, waded, & walked on. Sandy nr. creek; deer tracks. At 3200', fresh set deer tracks. Grey squirrel on road in brush area. 3500, in Pine-I. cedar. About, coyote tr. / 1/2 mile thereafter. A motorcyclist came past me, in mud. Continued to saddle, where fork up Barnes Mtn. (Duff Cr. Camp 4, on sign) 1255-3200'. Up last 1/4 mile-patches snow on road, old track marks. No sign puma. Walked back to truck & returned to Haslett. All overcast afternoon. About 5 house trailers at construction worker's area now, but no people 'cept me. Walk 10 mi., r. trip.

solam. spec.

11 March 1974. Monday. Clear + no frost. I drove out to Secata Ridge + out Cottonwood Ridge to helipad. No puma tracks, but moderate nos. coyote and deer and a few bobcat. Excellent views all around. Checked 2 sidetrails about 300 m.; coyote mostly. Also Cow Camp road for 1/4 mile / Returned to Fence Mdw. rd. and up to cattleguard at 4500' (No snow on road below this pt.). Gradual increase since clouds, calm. Tracks man & dog on main road. Walked on ridge to SE (where ATV recently), where snow now melted away. To first helipad (1 hr) and second (4800') at 1425. Good views up Dinkey Cr. & of Bear Wallow area. Checked side trails about 1/4 mile. No puma sign. Returned up to main road. Went a mile farther N., where road

KX#11

Journal

11 March 1974 Haslett B. area, Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

W-4 C-3 level at about 4600'; w. 6" slushy snow. Man and dog tracks. Returned to Haslett Camp. Light sprinkle at night. Walked about 7 mi., r.t.

12 March 1974. Tues. Another trailer & inhabitant arrived last night. Morning 2/10 cumulus, calm. / Yesterday, in P. pines about 4500 ft., heard woodpecker (saw downy? (white backed)) drumming & noted a dozen pines which had been almost debarked from 15-30' above ground, with marks like woodpecker hammerings. Reddish color ^bark in contrast to gray bark above and below. Bark chips on ground. Unpeeled bark had spaced (sev'l inches) holes w. old pitch oozed out. Woodpeckers after insects? / Returned to Berkeley.

SB 23 March 1974. Sat. Departed Berkeley about 11 a.m., w. Erik & Rolf K., & drove via 101 to Shandon and McMillan Ranch (242 mi.). Sam McM. had recently gone on hike with Sierra Club group, from Pozo summit to S., and they had found puma tracks heading S., at point just S. of ^trail branch to W., for about 300 yds. Fresh tracks, about size of fem. 20 track (he had track cast with him). They had seen few deer tracks, about 5 mi. r.t. / At McM. ranch met a UCSB biologist looking for Gary Rhodes, studying parasitism of cowbirds, a student. / Grass + forbs now green, to 1' tall. Sam said quail nest w. 1 egg found, another made but w/o eggs. Many quail in pairs, but many coveys too. / Three dead Mephitis in old septic tank at old house. Clear humid evening. [Shrike nest in old quail roost - no feathers yet or no young inspected.]

24 March 1974. Sun. Foggy morning. We drove out W to highway 58 then to Queen Bee camp & foot of Pine Springs trail. Started hiking up at 10 20. Many wildflowers in lower grassy country, yellow predominating. 40 min hike to ridge. (A FWD car had gone around locked gate & up this road.)

tracks On ridge, fresh puma tracks extending both N & S., apparently one adult. I walked N. about 1 mi. to point where found scratch on

KX

cast. 20 fem. Cast 2 tracks there. Hindfoot registered 1/2 track lateral to front. KX of pair in partial register. Tracks headed S. on firebreak

Journal

24 March 1974 Pinos Mtn.,

road. One track, hind 57w × 50 long pad, 1/8" silt. 92 long (center hind pad to tip longest toe). Ground dry - somet. a few hundred yds. later. Another pad 60 wide × 50 long, track 91 long; 2 mm. damp mud. Another mud spot; track pad 57 wide, 50 long, tr. 103 long; 5 mm. deep. / Deeper tracks, pad 65 w., toes 93 across, length 95 (10-15 mm mud). / (K2) w. 30 mm. wider, of pair, closest 67 pad w., other 55 w. × 100 track length. / Another, 10 mm deep - pad 70 × 46, tr. 89 long × 96 wide (cast). (This 200 m. S. of 20 Jan. casting site. Old tracks completely gone. At old ~~scrape~~ scratch, apparently now scraped from other side, pushing needles N. into 6" mound, but no toe marks. Cast largest track in way, & a single 14" to N. of it in way & plaster. / 30 min. direct walk back to sign (Pine Spr. 4½, highway 4). Erik & Rolf marked tracks to S. for about ½ mile (about same distance as a month ago). One 70 pad, 88 tr. width, atop hard mud. Others 61 & 65 pad, 90 across toes. Doubtless same cat. / They (E+R) continued S. Rolf searched down to Pine Spring. Erik to ½ mile S. on ridge (Ad. Amer. Cony. trail.) No more puma tracks. / Deer tracks few - ofte. ¼ mile later. sets. Bobcat about same. Few coyote tracks. / Saw up to 3 turkey vultures at once. One golden eagle, descended to E. from ¼ mile N. of old condor nest cliff. Ravens. W-t. swifts, violet green swallows, Mt. Quail. / Back at car 1840 & returned to McMillans. / Walked 12 mi; r. t.

25 March 1974. Mon. Departed on overcast morning for Pozo Station, then to Avenales Ranch and up Pilitas road to gate at about 2600'. Then hiked to N. along ridge, where I had found tracks on one previous visit. No tracks ~~on~~ until bed fine sand at first barbed wire gate; then 2 fairly clear. pad 57 - toe width 85 (hind ~~ft.?~~ ft.). 3600' by altim. Tracks heading N. We continued to N. Wind cold, about 20 kts. from Sn SW. About ¼ mile on, more fine sand w. coyote tracks,

Journal

25 March 1974. Mon. Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co., Cal.

but no puma. Continued on about 300 yds. & started to find occasional track (near where one found a scratch). Tracks continued on about 1/4 mile, to about 1/2 mile from gate. Track going up 15% slope in 10 mm. deep fine sand, 97 mm. across toes. Another on similar down slope, 100 mm across toes, 67 road. Probably full adult. | This is second area where repeat in tracks found - another "beat"? We continued on to oak-grassland patch, about 2 mi. from start. Occas. deer tracks or coyote. Light sprinkle commenced. We returned to car 1555. Slowly drove to microwave sta., in drizzle. Found no puma tracks. Descended back to Avenales Ranch. Talked w. Mr. & Mrs Hudson. Cliff told of report 3 puma seen (incl. kittens) together by PG&E men when building roads & towers. Also about a large track above "almond orchard" or "feather" in some previous year. | Hudsons said that suckers (fish) come up river in some yrs. (from Santa Margarita Lake?), but apparently not this year. Many Lophortyx still in gps. about 10. | Walked 4 mi., r.t.

26 March 1974. Drizzly rain. Drove N. on road, parked, & hiked S. to Balm of Gilead camp & adjacent pass toward Stony Cr. Initial 4 w.d. trail had many coyote tracks & droppings, moderate deer tracks, always one or two tracks on trail. One pair Mtn. Quail about 2400' elev. In the bottom, under shady live oaks, we turned over rotting logs & limbs and found 20± Batrachoseps in about 1/2 hr., + 1 Aneides. No concentration tracks at pass or B. of G. camp. No puma sign. Drizzle intensified & we returned to road, drove to McMillan Ranch. | Ian McM. showed us some of his Atriplex plantings, fireweed stands, & explained his management for quail thru grazing control and w. grain (barley, wheat) raising. | Erik flushed a barn owl from barn at old house. Ian thought nesting in the rnd

salam. spp.

Journal

20 March 1974 1. McMillan Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

gully, not usual old shack. There were P. maniculatus in old grain bin and in old house. Red-tailed hawk nesting atop a telephone pole 1/4 mile S. of E. Hahl house, another in eucalyptus near old adobe on McM. ranch.

27 March 1974. Wed. Returned to Berkeley via highway 5. Overcast, & rain at times. ~~Dave~~ Gary Z. ~~had seen one puma track in Shasta area~~ returned from Shasta area; no new tracks. Berkeley

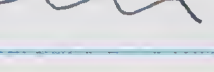
28 March 1974. W. MacGregor telephoned. Said Larry S. caught an old ♂ puma, and a ♀ w. small cub, last weekend & installed collars w. lithium batteries. Solar batteries put on previous ~~a~~ ♂ ceased giving signals. Also depredations on sheep reported for area south of Santa Barbara.

4 April 1974. (Thurs.) To Sierra Nat. For., Fresno Co., Calif. Departed 0600 and drove via Los Banos, Madera, Fresno, to Trimmer area and Haslett Basin. Snow appeared above 6000' level. Much recent hard rain. Grass tall & green & many flowers. Blue oaks mostly leaved out. Red-bud shrubs in near full bloom. At construction camps, red-tailed hawk carrying apparent nesting material. | Talked w. Ron Bertram & Bill Stuart of F&G. They had seen no puma tracks this year. Bill thought them sparse. He mentioned several localities S. of Kings River where had seen tracks in past - Cherry Gap, Deer Cove, Camp 7, Deer spr. spur of Rodgers Ridge. | I drove up Big Creek to near gate on road, then crossed Big Creek & hiked up firebreak of Bower Mtn. to top - hit road about 1 hr., peak about 1 more. On crest, often 5± sets deer tracks; rarely one coyote, no puma. Ground now drying & hard on surface; tracks previously in mud, now dried. No snow visible except at Bald Mtn. area. Returned to road & down to Haslett B. camps. Cirrus clouds today, breeze about 5 K. Saw one gray squirrel in oaks at about 3000', Big Creek Canyon.

5 April 1974. Heard Mtn. Quail whistles near camp (2000'). | ~~Also one~~ Drove to Sycamore Flat camp & back. Then up Big Creek & east on road to Nutmeg

Journal

5 April 1974. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co. Calif.

Saddle. Road finally passable, tho badly rutted. 2.4 mi. up to edge burn, 4.4 to Nutmeg Saddle. Parts of road silted + good for tracking. Left car at Saddle, 4827', 0945. Snow now gone except rare small patches in shade. Saw a pair of redtailed hawks on branch; saw a single one flying - in swoops as crossed ridge  (display?). / Left 1000 → Rose Crossing. Soon found fresh coyote track, bobcat track. No deer tracks. Saw 1 Mtn. Quail in mountain misery + trees, logs. 1045, at point where saw snow tracks on previous trip - but no tracks found. Carnivore droppings - almost none. About 1 set coyote tr./mi. 1100, jct. to Oak Flat. On down - road surface hardening but parts soft for tracks; old tracks in mud showed best. At 4800', deer track. About 3 sets 4600' or near Dinkey Creek. Reached Rose Crossing 1240. No car tracks yet. Walked beyond bridge a mile to jct. road to N. Deer tracks moderate, + a few of coyote. No puma sign. Alto-Cumulus clouds. Started back 1315. Violet-green swallows over Dinkey Creek, some probably going in holes in snag. 1425, jct. rd. to Dinkey Cr. town. (only 1 carnivore dropping on way!). 1510, Oak Flat jct. Back to Nutmeg S. 1615. Drove S. about 1/2 mile (paved here) until hit snow, Then N. (graveled road) up to Nutmeg Spring, 5250'. Many nutmeg trees here - shady, damp, deep duff. Coyote track about 5300'. / Clouds dispersed. / Returned to N. Saddle, Big Creek, + Haslett Basin camp.

Sat. 6 April 1974. All USFS men gone, Fri. p.m., from trailers. Clear day, calm. To Sycamore camp, then Kirch Flat. Trail to N. may be good for tracks. Many campers + boaters + fishermen. Drove up S. side Kings to Mill Flat Cr. camp, then on up this road toward Sampson Flat. Road wound up slopes through oaks, brush, rocks, occasional streams. Most good for tracks but no deer tracks + very rare others. From mouth Mill Flat Cr., 8 miles up, 3400', a spur to S. along contour

Journal
(Puma study)

6 April 1974 Sierra Nat. For., Fresno Co., Cal.

below Delilah LO; bobcat and 1 deer track in 1/4 mile. Spur to Clover Spr.? 9 mi. up, Goat Saddle, 3700' – view S. → Sampson Flat in bottom of head of canyon, about foot of pine belt. 11 mi., sign → Sampson Flat. Pines, oaks, chaparral – much broken vegetation. 13 mi., flatter, grass & pines; 4200' – tracks bobcat + several deer near stream. Then a few houses. 1 pm., at top of grade, 4700' – road W. to Delilah LO (5 mi.). Upper road much rutted but dry so passable. At top, mixed conifers, manzanita; woods much broken up. Continued on 3 mi. to highway 180, paved & smooth but narrow. Turned back + went about 1 1/2 mi → Mt. Sampson, looking for tracks, including saddle area. Started back 1345. about 2 hrs. to descend.

KX #16 Kodachrome → McKenzie ridge from nr. Goat Saddle (ridgetop road there). Scarcity tracks all down road below 4600.' Fine variety poppies, redbud, other flowers. Many boaters on Kings River. Returned to Haslett Basin.

7 April 1974. Sunday. Clear. Drove to Nutmeg S. road; at edge old burn 0810, Nutmeg Saddle 0830. Smog below about 4000; to W. Fresh deer & coyote tracks on road. Coming up from Haslett B. I saw 9 deer in bunch near the road, grassland-brush slope. At Nutmeg S., heard Mt. Quail calls in 3 directions. / Drove down road to Ross Crossing, 6.7 mi. (2 miles to mt. lion crossing, where tr. in snow in Feb.). (Put catnip + smoothed silty areas; marked spot.) .6 mi. on to Oak Flat jct. 0920, at Dinkey Cr. road jct., 4 1/2 mi. down from saddle. (10324) Ross Crossing bridge from Nutmeg S. 6.7 mi., Saw one chipmunk cross road about 5 mi. point; set traps (no catch). Drove then toward Patterson Mtn. .8 mi. to fork to N. Saw packed - muddy spots - and started walking up road, searching for tracks. 5000; two sets coyote tr. No deer tracks in area. Occas. fox. 1125, Rose Creek (sign 4825, altim 5000). 1145, Pasin Ridge (sign 5920, alt. 5250). Occas. coyote tracks. No snow patches yet. 1200 – about 3 sets good coyote tracks in shallow mud. Two grouse? flushed from slope under broken incense cedars. 5600; top of Bear

Journal
(Puma study)

7 April ~~1975~~ 1974. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

Walked road; patches snow ground. 1 deer track (preserved under snow?). Down at Bear W. Cr. (cogn 5700 / altim. 5750). Went around next switchback, near crest; more snow on rd. Turned back. Walked back down road. Once heard apparent pileated woodpecker call, below 5000'. Remained clear & calm. / Drove back & up Dinkey Cr. road (524) about a mile – fine gravelly hard surface; poor for tracks. Then drove to Oak Flat camp & looked for tracks – no deer or puma – and 1/2 mile beyond on foot. Frost dead re birdlife, tho some junior, robins, r-sided towhee. Drove back to Haslett Camp, arriving about 7 p.m.

t°: C -9, W -6

8 April 1974. Monday. Drove from Haslett B. to Trimmer, telephoned, & talked w. Bill Skoorwan, USFS. He said that a houndsman mentioned 3 pumas (family?) in Providence Cr. area. I talked w. Kit Ashcraft, who will be guard at Black Rock sta. next month. Another USFS man mentioned that Mr. Mansfield reported lion kill near Haughton Mine (N. of Balch Camp) recently. Also I talked w. ~~Bill~~ Bob Isola, USFS, Fresno. / Drove up Kings River thru Balch Camp to Haughton Mine. Left car at gate. Walked in road 100 yds. to where lion had dragged deer upslope onto road. It had dragged it 80 yds. N. on road – puma tracks fairly good in sandy parts center of road. Then up a grassy draw, w. live oaks, to E. about 80 yds. Carcass had been left under spreading live oak, where shady & fairly clear but covered from external view, about 6' clear of brush above site. Only deer hair on ground now – no bones at all, nor hide – except for a ball of intestines or paunch. About 100' farther up draw, smaller pile of deer hair at base tree, & bird whitewash indicated vultures or ravens had perched in tree over it. Mr. Mansfield, retired geologist, now half owner mine, showed me all this. Recently retired – did not know this country well. He had two dogs, which he said had been eating at the carcass, & a large dog had been there too. I plaster cast 3 tracks. About

Journal
Puma

8 April 1974. Mon. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

tr. cast 65 pad, 85 toe, minimum. But cat pulling carcass & toes dug in, so slurring tracks, & heel pads, some. Several tracks had poor register of an outer toe, as if missing! L & R sets sometimes spread about 12" laterally, probably in pulling. Casts: 2 of tracks ^ 0-2"; evidently front & rear, & a single track. All on level in coarse sand & scattered gravel. | I searched but found no droppings. Also I descended slope, about 50%, boulders &
1 Kx #17 grass, but found no sign where dragged up. Kx of live oak where carcass
2 BW found. B&W of road where dragged, & of general sidehill area. Total drag at least 130 yds, & up steep slope. Other trees on way but not overhanging to ground. Final site also 10' from clear running stream. About 4' of green grass in area. About 1900' elev. | I walked on up Dinkey Cr. trail on sidehill. In about 1 mile came to 200' cliffs on E. w. small waterfall and 200± cliff swallows building nests. Trail then switchbacked up - I continued to 2400' - but grew harder to find, as not maintained, & mostly grassed over. Muggy, hot, overcast alto stratus. | I returned down to car on road. Crossed bridge nr. Balch Camp & went up Secata Ridge rd. (11 mi.) slowly, stopping at good tracking spots. These few as gravelly surface. Sycamore Springs 3.6 mi. from bridge. Much cattle-tracked shortly before. 5.6 mi. from bridge, Fence Mdw. ridge, 3670.' Oak-grassland, cattle, mostly hard mud (but cattle & cars will loosen it to dust). 6.4 mi., E. Lower Rancheria Cr. spring. Dried mud area. | Continued on to Secata R. & down to Haslett Basin. Bertram crew arrived after dark.

9 April 1974. Tues. Light rain night - periodical & heavy at times in morning. Talked w. Don Neil (USFS); he said that about 1957, puma killed about 5 deer (?) in several days at San Joaquin Exp. Range; also that one deer killed by car (of Fred Graham ?) about then had large fresh wound in thigh as if from puma. Also I talked w. Bob Gale (USFS),

Journal
(Puma)

9 April 1974. Sierra Nat. For. Calif.

who had spent 5 yrs. in Yreka area. Said Neils Bennett of Cecilville was former lion hunter, good potential informant. Also Neils^(on) Brown, Sawyer's Bar area. Also said that primitive game area between Ft. Jeff & Scott drainages near (NE of ?) Happy Camp. | Talked also w. Skowan and Ron Bertram.

Report. Latter had reported that Italian man (arciotti ?) about 1½ mi. below Tremmin had seen lioness & cub there last year; recently said he had not seen more. | Rain let up about noon — I drove toward Big Creek camp. Road slide; I got stuck near gate. Walked on toward Duff Camp. Started to snow wetly, sticking about 4000.' Returned to Haslett B. / about 4 pm., I went to Rush Cr. road & ¼ mile S. to Montgomery brothers place. Prospectors, w. tungsten mine. Talked w. one — here 20 yrs. — used to trap coyotes & bobcats. He said that about 5 years ago, dog hunter took several mountain lions out of area. Last year he saw tracks of ♀ & kitten near his house & across the main road. Once he saw tracks on road near Rush Cr. falls. He thinks many less deer & lions than formerly. He said hunter Michaels completely unreliable, & that M. wants hunting of lions. Montgomery seemed good informant & did not exaggerate. Very friendly. Carves dogs in black serpentine as hobby. |

10 April 1974. Drove back to Berkeley. Partly cloudy. Arr. 6 p.m.

23 April 1974. Departed Berkeley 10 a.m. for Internat. Cat Symposium at Seattle. Raining all day as I drove N. via highway 5 to S. Oregon, where arrived evening near Eugene.

24 April 1974. Wed. Drove on via Portland to Seattle, arriving at Univ. Wash. about 2 p.m. Visited Richard Taber at School Forest Resources, and also talked with various students. In evening talked w. Sterling Miller, man working on Chilean mammals under Taber.

25 April 1974. Spent day at Seattle, working on reports for cat meeting.

Journal

25 April 1974. Seattle, Washington.

Visited offices of Don Farner and Gordon Orians in Zoology, but both away. Taber located in Winkenwerder Hall, small modern wood and large windows. Kincaid Hall hold bird labs on top floor; well equipped offices & labs. Largest single campus in ~~U~~ west, apparently.

26 April 1974. Went to ~~Cat~~ Cat Symposium in Hilton Hotel. Organized by Randall Eaton. Met Paul Leyhausen, of Max Planck Inst., Rich Poelker ~~Paelker~~, who is making puma study in Washington, Percy & Penny Dawson, studying pumas on Vancouver Island, Helmut Hemmer of Gutenberg Univ., Wallace MacGregor of Calif. Fish & Game, & many other cat people. Also talked w. A. Stephen Johnson & "Sandy" Davis of Defenders of Wildlife. also w. Roy MacBride, Alpine, Texas, a cowboy type hunter.

27 April 1974. Saturday. More meetings, in morning mostly ~~with~~ on puma studies. I chaired panel of 6 on pumas in late morning and gave paper on S. American felids in afternoon. Apparently none of other participants had worked in South America. / Norman Myers arrived & I talked IUCN with him. / Mr Brager Larsen, (about 65 yrs) Norwegian of Denmark, a fur raiser and dealer of high standing, was active in discussion, ~~and~~ esp. w. Leyhausen. B-L had about 40 ocelots in Germany & was breeding them. / Evening banquet, between Leyhausen & Myers. Then a party w. graduate students & Paelker at Taber's. / Roy MacBride said that he could distinguish puma from other droppings, largely because more compact and heavy. Loose soon after feeding. He had transplanted about 10 pumas in Texas & said none had stayed in the new areas. Recently he returned from Florida, where he said there were about 12 panthers left. Ocelots & jaguar, Roy said still some in brushlands of coastal area in southern Tamaulipas. He thought no jaguars in Coahuila and perhaps none

Journal

27 April 1974. Seattle, Wash.

in Vera Cruz. In genl, thought estimates numbers by others too high. / Washington state has 1 puma limit + questionnaire requirement. They hope to estimate numbers by Lincoln Index w. marked animals.

28 April 1974. Sunday. Attended part of morning cat session. Conferred w. Norman Myers again. Went sailing w. Tabers off Edmonds in afternoon.

29 April 1974. Monday. Departed 6 a.m. for Vancouver Island. Left Horseshoe Bay about 10:50 a.m. for Nanaimo (2 hrs). Then drove N. to 4 mi. before Parksville, turned W. up dirt road 3.2 mi, then 4 mi. up road to NSW to Dewar's camp, where Percy & Penny Dewar, and dogs lived. Crude cabin w. canvas roof. Penny's sister Susan Brown also helping there. / Talked w. Fish & Wildlife men who had brought a live puma ♂, taken w. dart gun near Victoria airport. It was unconscious & tied. Percy D. put a radio on neck, tags in ears. Put cat in cage. / Dewars had been working on pumas in this area about 2 yrs. They had 4(?) radioed pumas now operating. One ♀ they had followed for 4 months by radio (not seen). Longest single day movt. about 30 miles. Penny thought about 25 had been found in 200 sq mi of study area (whole area, 1000± sq mi, closed to cat hunting by lumber co. – MacMillan-Bloedel). / Fish & Wildlife men said cougars took dogs, cats. Recently 3 cats taken in about 3 days, all carcasses gathered to same spot. / No coyotes or bobcats this region, nor rabbits, foxes. Some black bears. Main puma foods deer and beaver (about 1/3 of droppings collected had). Red squirrels (chickaree). Percy said in past hunting took 14 pumas in 14 days, including 4 under 1 yr, 3 ♂♂, 4 ♀♀. Also told of a woman on ranch who trapped over 70 in one area over the years. / Dewars had treed 56 pumas, tranquilized 14; so at least 2 killed in process. Radios worked

Journal

29 April 1974. Nr Parksville, Vancouver Is., Canada.

to 4 mi. max. Cats usually avoid open slash. Perhaps most in larger timber. / I saw flicker, Steller jay, "willow" grouse (heard booming).

30 April 1974. Tuesday. Still w. Percy Dewar. Area is Douglas fir w. w. hemlock, red cedar, salal. Mostly cut over in blocks, some replanted and now 10-20 yrs. old. Most roads rocky & poor for tracking. Many old logging roads. Percy thought these poor for deer until 50-60 yrs. old. Pumas were where prey are. / A group of students from Antioch College, Ohio, visited. Then we took the caged puma (docile; allowed ear to be tagged through cage wire) about 10 miles NE & released it on road. It went to side toward brush, but Percy was there & cat turned away, about 10' from him, & trotted up slope, hind feet raised almost together, tail loose. At top of slope, slowed to walk. (Some [Later this one killed sheep & was shot; letter from Dewar] stayed to observe mvt. by radio; cat started away about 6 p.m.). / Percy took me to site of a kill, where small doe dragged down gravel road about 100 yds, then 170 yds. thru chaparral, small conifers, logs - past many hiding spots - to pocket in salal. Hole each side of neck just below head, as if bitten from behind. Upper half eaten from fore to hindlegs, all ribs cut out, & backbone gone for several inches. Apparently ate loin, not legs. (Percy had put carcass in steel live trap, but not visited by "even a marten".) / We then walked an old, largely grown over, road thru alders, conifers, old stumps, salal. Found about 6 old scratches in 1/2 hr., and one white dropping (almost all deer hair, a few fragments large bones). Percy showed periodic constrictions in droppings, about 30 mm diam., about 4 pieces to 4" long. Some bear sign area. / Then to another site, a rim at top wooded slope w. some 200' trees (D. fir, cedar), bigleaf maples. Percy said had tracked at least 4 pumas there (stream at bottom). Near rim we found about 8 scratches, some repeated at same spot (as under shelter of an angled up old log). P. said old rotting logs favored for scratches. (Kittens usually alongside or partly under log.) P. told of 2 cubs in

new roll
KX

Journal

30 April 1974 Nr Parksville, Vancouver Is., B. Columbia.

one litter, ♂♂, 70 & 90 lbs. P. said puma sometimes detours to site of old kill, months old, or to swamps as if looking for beaver. He said most depredations on livestock from immature males. / On ridges where still forested on top, logged below, best hunting route is just above lower edge, or halfway from edge to top, not on crest. On an isolated hill, pumas ascended close to top. None now on Baldy, a deforested higher mtn. (5000'?). / About 6 pm, released puma moved down slope into bottom of main wide canyon, crossing main logging road.

1 May 1974. Percy drove me on some seldom used roads where often found sign. We visited two marshes where there were <u>beaver</u> workings. Apparently fed on willows, stripping bark from 1" diam. sections. We found tracks & droppings of a few <u>elk</u> in one swamp. / Along sides of one road, Percy found <u>scratches</u> puma. I photoed two, where scattered pieces bark alongside road. Later one in broken up rotted wood in
3KX center of road. One place, about 3 scratches of different ages. Percy said often repeat at same place. He said often scratch on rotting log bridge over swamp; there <u>was</u> one, in rotting wood. A cave made by overhang of boulder at edge road - about 8' long, 3' high - and a scratch 2' outside, or of puma going in; Percy said one stayed there two days, & left droppings near entrance. / We met the 2 girls following the collared cat, Dan. He had gone about 4 mi. overnight, then down-stream direction in canyon a few miles, then turned N. in after-noon today. / Near swamps, many old charred stumps showed once forest of large D. fir & red cedar; now, 30 yrs. later, scattered 20' D. fir and much brush & thick grass. Returned to Dewar's camp. Percy showed me prints of photos pumas, mostly the collared ones, & of some kills. /

Journal

2 May 1968 74 — To Washington state

I drove to Victoria and took ferry for Port Angeles, arriving too late to visit Olympic Game Farm at Sequim, where said to have about 30 pumas [later decimated by rabies.] including Ronny D's cubs. One of them about to give birth, at 2½ yrs. Drove S. to near Olympia. — To Berkeley, Calif.

3 May 1974. Drove on. No rain, fairly clear. In Shasta area, snow-line about 5000' or above. Continued on to Berkeley, arriving late eve.

8 May 1974. Departed 10 a.m. and drove S. via highway 101 to I. McMillan Ranch near Shandon, 233 mi. Ian showed ~~abundant~~ abundant Lotus, Lupenia, good quail foods in pastures. Former good quail feeding area had gone to grass over years, so was plowed for planting. Ian said many rodents now. We saw meadow lark nest with 4 young and 2 quail eggs, near old adobe. Saw 2 juv. and adult great horned owls. Ian said barn owls had brought off brood in ditch near his old (1950) house. Many more quail than last year at same time. Little nesting yet, however. Found spadefoot toad at the old house in evening.

9 May 1974. Foggy. Departed McMillan's & drove via Navajo Camp to Pozo. Talked w. Sam Trotter & Bob Stone of USFS. Latter said puma tracks at end road (sketch sp.?) in Beartrap Canyon a month ago. He had worked in Ventura Co. & hunted w. — Hasty (sp.?) of Santa Paula. In Santa Barbara co., he said pumas near Zaca Lake and on Lucas ranch (Capt. Wofford of co.? fire dept. hunted there). Lookouts will be manned later this month. / I drove to Avenales Ranch & up Pilitas road to upper gate, 2600', then about ½ mi. N. & walked on stony ridge. After ½ hr., at barbed wire gate, good spot of fine sandy ground and puma track, apparently several days old, about 90 across toes + 60 pad — track

Journal

9 May 1974 — Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

w-4 but in loose sand. Continued on about 2 1/2 mi. to head of Machesna trail, but found no more puma sign. Saw several dust-baths of mt. quail and often

c-3 heard them in brush. Few deer tracks on ridge. Fox and coyote tracks & droppings occasional. Warm clear day. Returned S. to car. Swept several spots for scent-posts & baited w. catnip extract in pec. / Car about 3:40 p.m. Drove up to Pilitas microwave sta., searching roadsides. Walked 200 yds. S & back — new brome grass obscured most of ground. Drove back down road & went to Avenales G.S. / In evening, walked about 1 mi. up trail to W. toward ridge of Garcia Mtn. Rather

w-1 sterile ground (in brushland) but many flowers; few droppings, no deer sign. But saw 3 deer near guard station in oak-grassland. / Saw orioles, g.b. goldfinch, w.b. nuthatch, linnets, many quail (pairs), heard

mi. mtn. quail. / Walked today about 7 mi, a round trip; 1 puma track, old. / Many lupine this year; quail pairs common. / Cleared many areas for track sites; baited some w. catnip oil p.

10 May 1974. Clear. Morning coyote chorus. Drove to Kennel Cr. & slowly drove this side road, where

c-3 tracking good in spots, to gate, then on for a mile & parked (entrance Buck-

w-1 horn R.). Walked 1 mi. up Branch Mtn. road. No puma tracks (rare deer), but coyote. Drove 8 mi. out "35" road, thru chaparral area, to grassland-oak; fair tracking, no puma tracks. / Then back toward ranchhouse & off to W. on

c-2 PGE road. Ascended, then down to a grass-oak bottom (remains rock house) & on toward Loughlin Ranch (4.5 mi.) but road diminished, so turned back. Frequent stops to look for sign. / Drove PGE road to E. for 4 1/2 mi. —

c-4 many cattle tracks, boulders on road; — will be better after scraped. / Returned to Guard Sta. about 3:30. Departed again 4:30, drove 1 1/2 mi. S., then walked up Machesna Mtn. trail about 3/4 hr. Mostly

w-2 grassy, poor for tracks, & did not reach chaparral (grass-oaks). Returned to road and guard station. / Walked today about 6 mi. &

Journal

10 May 1974. Avenales Ranch, S.L.Ob. Co.

tw. c-10 w-3 drove about 16 mi, looking for puma tracks. Clear all day, mod. warm.

11 May 1974. Sat. Morning coyote chorus at Avenales. Drove down rd. & parked to walk to Balm of Gilead campground. Coyote droppings on trail. Heard Mt. Quail

4 kx calls. Saw 1/4 grown Citellus beecheyi. Photo → SW to B. of G. area from Sellers Potrero. about 1 hr 25 min. to B. of G. Substrate of oak leaves, damp & shady under live oaks, good for scratches. Found Junco nest w. 3 eggs, under pacific oak, on ground, partly

w-3 hidden in cavity. Took side trail to pass to Stony Cr.; no puma sign, & almost no other canine sign at pass. Returned to Avenales road. / Visited Cliff Hudson & wife Martha at headquarters. No recent reports puma or bulls. Deer now w. half-grown antlers in velvet. Most deer in oak grasslands. We departed and drove to McMillan Ranch (nr. Shandon). Visited w. Dan & May. To 90° here today.

12 May 1974. Sunday. Clear. Departed 0650. Drove via #58 to Queen Bee camp. & 2 mi. beyond to foot of Pine Spr. rd. (gate), 37½ mi. from from McMillans.

c-4 Hiked up road to ridge. About 4 lines deer tracks on road. Mt. Quail calls in chaparral & tracks on road. At ridge 0815. Walked N. along ridgetop trail 1 hr., but no puma sign at former sites, tho excellent tracking beds of fine sandy dust. Fox and coyote tracks, and after tracks 1 deer (also first fawn tracks seen). Small Phrynosoma - saw one about every ½ hr., and occasional adult. I went short distance on side trails, including one down toward American Canyon (small meadows; wet spots). Was back at top of road up at 1115. Then walked S. to crest overlooking Beartrap Canyon & cliffs, about 1 hr. More Phrynosoma, about 2" long - at least 20 seen during day. Warm w.

w-6 fair breeze. Saw no chipmunks, no eagles or falcons, some turkey vultures. Returned to truck about 2 p.m. / Then drove down Williams Creek (Chester Spr.) road & out Beartrap road (this w. locked gate 2 mi. before end). Last thru chaparral, oak - grassland, about 3 creek beds, some with water. Returned to McMillan Ranch nr Shandon.

Journal

13 May 1974 — 1 McMillan Ranch, nr. Shandon, San Luis Ob. Co., Cal.

Clear & calm. Took about 6 *P. maniculatus* in snaptraps in kitchen of old house last eve. Kangaroo rats & cottontails abundant here. At house and Dan's. Worked on house & yard maintenance. Visited w. Dan McM.

14 May 1974. Drove to La Panza summit about 2400'. Mt. Quail calls (0755) in chaparral there. Parked, & hiked up firebreak trail to S. after 40 min, before

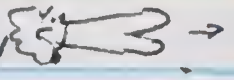
est. same cat

steepest rocky section, found puma tracks in 1/4" dust; one 50 pad - 70 toes; another 60-85. (Probably front & hind feet, tho possibly 2 cats 10"-24" apart laterally, or two trips of one cat.) Others 55-80 (1/8" dust), 55-, 55-. At least a few days old - perhaps a week - so measurements crude. | about 18" stride. Also a bear track, 105 mm across forepad. Tracks 2-3 deer constant on this lower section trail; later scarce. 1 cat. Saw ash-throated flycatcher, doves, t. vulture, titmouse, wren. 0900, at Rich Ranch trail sign. Golden eagle w. white base tail, soaring. Turned L & hiked 1/2 mile S. on ridgetop trail (toward Pine Spr.). Returned to Rich R. sign (1000) & out to W. on this trail. 1015, on

track

ridge trail in chaparral, found puma tracks, 60-80 (1/2" sand), about same size & age as previous, also one as if 2 sets. 50 m. on, 5 double prints going to side off trail; found no kill. | At crest on flatter ground with Coulter pines near trail & needles on trail, found scratch, 7" wide and 7"

scratches KX 2

long & mound (3" high), showing two foot scrapes at front and  →

KX 2

10 m. on, another, 7" x 8" long. Both fresh looking, & at least 3 older scratches within 5 m. of first, all in needles. Photoed quickly (KX3). About 100 m. on, survey marker to N.; sandstone boulder outcrops. Hind print 55-80. | Photoed other scratches (KX #12, 13) among C. pines & boulders, a trail narrowed place, one near base of boulder in dried manzanita lvs.

KX 14 (w. cone)

Two 10 m. apart. | 1/4 mi. on, another scratch in needles, photoed. 7 1/2" wide, 6" long, & mound. All are short & similar, one foot sometimes 1" ahead other. Is form of scratches characteristic of cats? Soon arrived at a peak

Journal

14 May 1974. Tues. Pine Mtn, San Luis Ob. Co., Calif.

w. remains old wooden ^marker framework. Trail divided, one branch to W., another to SW (to American Canyon?). Saw gopher snake on trail; about 4 large and 20 small Phrynosoma. Occasional Sceloporus, Uta?, Cnemidophorus lizard. Saw prairie falcon fly E. over La Panza summit.

KX5 Photo, KX5 → S. toward Pine spr. from rich trail peak. / Walked S. on trail on ridge; in first dip, another rattle(KX), another 30 m. beyond on higher ground; same size as before but scant needles. Track 80 mm

to W. A seen toes. 1230, started back. / Clear warm day w. fair breeze. / about 1 hr. to descend from rich R. ridge to La P. summit. Walked about

walk - 7 mi 7 mi. tracking. / On way thru Navajo Rd, met John Blake of USFS. He mentioned had photoed condor chick when at Huff's Hole with Fred Sibley, at latter's invitation! I saw a roadrunner in open chaparral on this road. / Back at McM. ranch, I visited Eben McMillan. He was doubtful of any report of condors in Baja Calif. He had accompanied Bornemann and others on trips to San Pedro Martir. / Eb said this was record year for abundance cottontails, rodents, snakes, at his ranch. Wife had seen young quail group about a wk. ago. Returned to Berkeley.

24 May 1974. Departed Berkeley 0600, with Ralf K., for Shasta area. Stopped at Willows, USFS hdqtrs. for Mendocino N.F., and talked w. John Lonzaine (sp.?) and assistant about pumas. He had a dozen records of sightings since 1972 and gave me these, plus plots on map. He thought Thomes Cr. drainage best puma area, or Middle Fork Eel (less accessible). One puma had jumped into side of pickup truck. (Pepperwood Spr. area) One taken for sheep depredation - sheep newly introduced. / Dr. Don Hemphill of Pacific Union college had done dissertation on wildlife of S. Yolla Bolly area & still brought classes up each June. He also had paper on plant communities of the NW Calif. These papers should be helpful. / There had been spotted owl ^recorded seen & seen in

Journal

24 May 1974 Willows, Glenn Co., Calif.

Log Springs (?) area recently. Chickarees at various sites, in April in Alder Springs (?) area. Mt. Quail widespread. Deer had summer & winter ranges; these plotted on wall maps. Some tagged deer. A wall map w. vegetation types (mostly chaparral on E. side), and another with raptorial bird records. / Drove on thru town route of Sacto. N. Wildlife Refuge, where a large flock of white pelicans (50+). No geese & few ducks seen (mostly mallards, pintails). Great contrast to winter scene. / On to Lake Shasta and La Moine road. This closed during weekdays for construction. So took Dog Creek road. Paved about 1 mile, then graveled, but spots good for tracking. Recently scraped. Black oaks, some Douglas fir, bigleaf maple, buckeye, in lower parts near clear stream, below 2000 ft. At 2000', pair of Mt. Quail on road on steep slope w. Q. chrysolepis, some manzanita chaparral. Thence more live oaks. By 3000', mostly conifers. 5.5 mi. up road, 2700', pool in stream ~~be~~ crossing road had larva of Dicamptodon, about 6" long (taken). About 6.1 mi., 2900', similar pool and one about 5" long taken. Cold clear water, rocky stream w. silt in pools. / Continued on, looking for tracks out of windows, occasionally stopping to catch a Sceloporus graciosus. Ridgetop jct. (branch to Sugarloaf L.O.), then to Damnation Pass. Along road, occasional tracks 1 or 2 deer, raccoon, and rare coyote track. ~~Dow~~ Took road to Sanford Pass, which ~~a~~ had occas. small patches old snow. Thence toward Slate Mtn. and down to Fools ~~Fall~~ Gulch Camp, 4400', where I had seen chickarees eating Sugar Pine cones last summer. Only old pine cones there, & no chickarees or Mtn. quail heard in evening. Mixed conifers, including 18" dbh yellow pines. Still night. / Along road from Damnation Pass, W. banks of loose rock & shale fragments, & Sceloporus abundant. We took several about 6"

tr c-15 w-1

Dicamp. spec.

Journal

24 May 1974. Slate Mtn., Shasta Co., Calif.

and many about 2" long. A 1" Bufo near Fools Gulch camp.

25 May 1974. Calm, cool but not freezing. Heard chickaree (1), and at least 2 Mtn. quail calling. Once heard coyote at night. (Saw one Eutamias only yesterday, about 4700', above Fools Gulch.) Heard mourning doves calling. Ralf found several Taricha (granulosa?) in creek to W. of camp. / Saw several robins yesterday, and 2 juncos above 4000'. Saw no beartracks yesterday, about 1 mi. NE Fools Gulch camp. / We drove back to about halfway between Sanford & Damn. passes. Met USFS construction man; said he had seen grouse & 2 deer near Tollhouse; had not seen puma but knew of Bob Gray & Gerard LO incidents; lived in Dunsmuir; thought puma scarce but present. / Saw 2 C. beecheyi out

KX 17, 5.9. am Bw

about 8 a.m. Left Ralf to study Sceloporus graciosus. Drove to Damnation Pass, slowly, looking for tracks. Thence down road to Clear Creek, searching good spots & sideroads. Thence on to Trinity C. road, N. to Nelson Gap, & down to Jackson Spr. & edge lake (2400' – D. fir, Black oak, some pines). Saw deer tracks ~~38~~ 3900' & some to lake. Little sign coyote. Dog tracks more common. Heard squirrel nr. Trinity C. rd.; some sugar pines with 1 2" closed green cones, but no cuttings noted. Heard Mtn. Quail about 3000'. / Tried Billie Cr. road from below – stopped by slides & fallen trees in about 1 mile; also tried it from Nelson Gap, stopped by slides after 2 mi. / Most roads are graveled so poor for tracking, tho outer rim loose soil, after graded, good and occasional dust areas. / Returned to Nelson Gap. Thence up 36N23 halfway to ~~Fat~~ Fools Gulch, out a logging side-road a mile, & misc. foot trips laterally. No puma sign and coyote rare, tho deer tracks common. Perhaps no pumas resident on W. side of divide! Returned via Clear Creek to 2 mi. NW of Damnation Pass. Ralf had marked lizards w. colored plastic & had tried to discover ranges.

Journal

25 May 1974. Slate Mtn., Shasta Co., Calif.

We camped nearby. Calm clear day & fairly hot. Some patches snow at sides road still. / I walked a mile down La Moine trail, which follows top of ridge thru ~~dense~~ Douglas fir, some 4' in dbh! Dark, cave stream, below, but little animal sign. / Drove about 25 ~~15~~ miles in car search, about 8 mph, stopping to look at good areas. No owls heard night, nor coyotes.

veh. C. 25 mi. F. 3 mi. (1 rep.)

26 May 1974 Sunday. Slate Mtn. ~~Left~~ Drove NE to Sanford Pass, thence to Slate Mtn. L.O. Calm, clear day. No calls Mt. Q. or chickadees heard. Searched for tracks along roadsides. (Bear tracks on road near L.O.) Lookouts not manned yet. Roads generally too rocky for good tracking. Took road (Trinity Summit Trail) N. to Divide Camp, on ridge. A stand of knobcone pines on W. slope en route. Openings of rocky ground, patches short ceanothus, serpentine rocks. Mixed conifers (DF-IC-PP). / Continued out road N. 1 mile (too steep & loose for truck) to Hall's Saddle. An old logging trail w. pine trees to here, & trail to Highland Lake (7 mi.). Parts of this road good for tracking or scratches; good pine-needly ground on trail to H. Lake - worth search all the way to H. Lake road to N. Saw a Townsend's T. Solitaire in small pines. Occas. deer tracks in dried mud. No puma sign & rare coyote. / Returned to Divide Camp & found minimal trail across slope to about 1/2 mi. N. of Budweiser Gap. Searched for other trails, ridges, creek area. Returned to Divide Camp & drove back to Sanford Pass area. / Much snow still near top of Red Mtn. / Ralf had worked on lizards (Sceloporus) movements all day until about 2 p.m. / We drove down La Moine road, searching for sign. Much construction before La Moine mill area. In calm clear pool of small stream there, we found large larva of Dicamptodon. We put this with other 2 in jar of water. / Continued on down to highway 5. Thence N. to Castle Crags, and up dusty road

Dicamp. coll.

Journal

26 May 1974. Shasta Nat. For., Shasta Co., Calif.

to Girard Lookout. Went beyond about a mile on Sweetbriar road, where blocked by snow, & walked a mile more looking for tracks. Mixed conifers in area but mostly red fir. Mts. to E. & S. had almost no visible roads, a few small trails - much less logged and developed than Slate Mtn. area. / G. lookout had fine view Mt. Shasta & Castle Crags, at edge brush patch (lookout woman had shot a puma there, a few yrs. ago). We drove about 1½ mi. out to E. on Girard Ridge and camped. Windy.

(SA - C 1 W 3)
Mi car 5.1+12 (far..)
foot 4 mi.
G. - C 3 W 1

27 May 1974. along ridge [Girard Ridge], occasional patches brush or brush-cleared (mechanically) areas. In general, trees young. We drove slowly back to Lookout, searching for tracks. Deer tracks along road, but others rare. We descended slowly, with good dust on road, to about 3000' and still found deer tracks (1 to 3). To Castle Crags; then highway 5 and back to Berkeley. Hot in central valley.

car 5.7 mi.

29 May 1974 Walnut Creek, Calif.

Visited Gary Bogue of A. Lindsay Jr. Museum in W.C. In cage at his home he had ♀ puma about 10 mos. old, roughly 60 lbs. (Obtained from woman who had kept as pet.) Gary put Lysol on ~~?~~ cement, about ~~tsp~~ tsp. Cat ran to it, rubbed face in it, rolled, apparently spread substance to edge of a tank in cage, continued to rub it - catnip-like effect, apparently, tho he says do not respond to dried catnip. A 3 yr old ♂, at house of "Mark" - , was large, perhaps over 150 lbs., & said to be fierce toward Gary tho Mark could control him. Occasionally ♀ was run loose in hills near Mt. Diablo and would return when called. Gary very knowledgable about predatory

Journal

29 May 1974 Wed. Walnut Creek, Calif.

birds and mammals, tho not apparently w. formal biological training. Had taken courses in animal capture & restraint. He thought could trap pumas in live traps & that they would not require superstrong traps. He was on good terms w. Esten & Sue Wallen (F & G study.) / Gary said 1 imm. puma seen on Mt. Diablo in Pine Canyon area. Also pair had visited Lafayette reservoir. One had apparently stayed overnight in basement of occupied house on Skyline Blvd, Oakland. / Bogue said willing to help in obtaining tracks & other data from captives.

To Fresno Co., Calif.

30 May 1974. Departed 12 M and drove via Los Banos to Haslett Basin near Trimmer, Fresno Co. Grass was very dry & there had been fires. All other men gone from the H.B. construction camp.

Sierra N.F., Kings R., Calif.

31 May 1974 Friday. A safety meeting of USFS at Trimmer. Went there & talked 10 min. (briefed on lion study) to about 40 men of USFS, longer to Bill Skeuman. Returned to Haslett Basin. About 1 mi. N of Big Cr. bridge, in sec. 33, W. side, I saw an adult golden eagle gliding back & forth over oaks on slope while carrying dried grass (?) trailing about 1½'. Did not see it alight. Fixed up trailer hitch & hauled my trailer to Nutmeg Cr. bridge & left it. Then drove up to Big Creek camp and up road to top of Barnes Mtn. slowly, looking for tracks. One or two sets deer tracks constant. No sign puma, few coyote. From summit, turned

5 car 10 mi. back 1 mi. & took lower road down to area Bretz Mill. (Stream clear and not very high now.) Then to ft. of Providence Cr. rd. & walked up it 40 min.; to stream in pine woods; deer tracks rare, no puma & little canid sign. / Returned

5. foot 4 (rt) to Haslett Nutmeg Cr. to camp.

Koford

Journal - (puma study) Sierra N.F., Calif.

1 June 1974. Saturday. Clear. Most grass dry now. (Fine show of *Fremontia* yellow flowers on W. aspect slopes near Big Cr. gate.) Departed w. trailer for Fence Mdw. area. Road graded and dry. Visited Fence Mdw. Lookout, manned by young couple (Wendy Finke & husband). They were interested in animals and hoped to see puma. ♀ or Delilah in a previous year. / I continued on up road, looking for

5 feet 3 mi. (est.) tracks as feasible. / Parked, & walked 1/2 mile out broken road toward Oak Flat; occas. 1 set deer tracks or 1 set

tr. c. coyote, but no puma sign (large droppings = coyote?). This road just across canyon from LO. Continued on via Nutmeg Spring to highway 168. Upper few miles (5?) good soft dust. Then about 6 mi. W. to Markwood Mdw., where F&G group had trailer. Parked trailer there in mixed conifers. Walked nearby trails 1 hr. Saw one snowshoe hare, only tail & perhaps part ears white; rather tame, near old houses. Flushed about 5 Mt. Quail, two pairs from low Ceanothus. / Heard several quail calls, mostly just N. of camp area. Apparently considerable human (walking) travel in this zone. / No snow at 6000' level. Considerable on S. side Nelson Pk. Deer tracks on Nutmeg S. - Fence Mdw. road area, & many at spots at Markwood Mdw. (green & lush).

2 June 1974. Sunday. Left Markwood Mdw. for Wishon Village. 8/10 cirrostratus cloud; calm. Little traffic, few campers, tho weekend. Briefly looked at 2 track sites of last summer, betw Bear Cr. & Gigantea camps. Saw one ~~Sa~~ Douglas chickaree about 2 mi. E. of Dinkey Cr.; crossed road in mixed conifer stand. / At Wishon store, talked w. owner Bill Jasper and wife. He had been here sev'l yrs., went out Summit Flat road in snow cat in winter. Said only a few bears + raccoons around in winter. Said

Journal

2 June 1974. Sierra Nat. For., Fresno Co., Calif.

a puma on hill to N. a few yrs. ago, another killed to W. in ordinary deer season. Several all white Calif. ground squirrels near store about 1972. Lief Valtz was to come June 8, to watch coyotes. / I drove across Wishon Dam; water about 20' below high mark. Went to Woodchuck trailhead and walked

foot 2 mi (rt)

up trail 1/2 hr., to 7100'. Snow patches. Deer tr., [illegible], + dog. Returned to road. / Drove to Sugar Pine hill (Crown V. trailhd.); only 6 cars there. Walked up C.V trail 1/2 hr to Rancheria Cr., high & roaring. Found no canine

ft. 2 mi.

droppings. Returned to road. / Drove to end of paved road on Little Rancheria, in snowbank; looked for sign. Returned to Wishon. (Track of bear cub at Sugar Pine hill.) / On to W. Drove 2 mi toward Sawmill Flat; road surface too hard for tracks. Patches snow by road. / Out + back 1 mi. on road to

car 2 mi (rt) + misc. 2

about Mdw.; cut-over flats + lodgepole pines. Then to Buck Mdw. for brief search. / about 1/2 mi SE of [illegible], walked down abandoned road, good surface for scratches, toward Deer Cr. Saw gray squirrel at 6500' in conifers w. low brush, no oaks. Saw 1 deer. Mixed conifers. Good tr. road for animal search. about 1 mile to fork; then return. / Back to Marshwood

foot 2 mi (rt)

Mdw. Saw Bob Gale arrived + man making survey of spotted owls. He had found some pairs in this area; over 100 pairs in Calif. so far.

day - [illegible] foot rt 6 (?) car +

3 June 1974, Monday. Clear, calm. Went to Shaver Lake for gasoline. Returning, walked around near Blue Canyon Vista Pt. — in canyon heard Mt. Quail, Pygmy Owl. Also walked 1/4 mi. of dirt road to E, & back. / Then drove to Providence Cr. road & descended slowly, searching sides. First 1.8 mi. too hard ground for tracking; then turned S. & descended, good dust. Saw 1 gray squirrel about 6000', where oaks scarce (black). / at Summit Camp, old sugar pine cones on ground, but saw no chickarees (rare now). / I took a side road, on foot, to SE — little used, mostly by vehicles & partly grown over. apparently thru private lands. Occas. deer or coyote track

Journal

3 June 1974 Sierra Nat. For., Calif.

and 1 fresh coyote dropping. About 2 mi.; trail reached small lush meadow. Saw a white headed woodpecker in cedar, going up trunk. Saw a Mt. Quail at about 10 yds.; main cover small (6') incense cedars. (Probably near edge of Long Mdw.). Found a snake (boa ?) beneath piece of bark on damp bank, about 5700' est. No puma sign found. Returned to road. / Bobcat track in mud; ~~35~~ 46 mm across toes, 22 across pad. / Drove slowly down to Providence Cr. (5440'); crossable only with difficulty. I walked on various branches, varying ages; no puma sign. / Drove back up road. Thence E. thru Dinkey Cr. area to 1.3 mi. E. of Bear Cr., where put scent yesterday on 2 spots. Deer tracks on one site, 0 on other; I put out 2 more smoothed places, baiting w. Lysol. Then went on .5 mi. & checked other site; 0. Put out 2 more stations on that 4 w.d. road. Walked up road about 1/2 mi. Saw a ♀ chickaree, two places 4, & 100 yds. apart. ~~Put out~~ Saw one deer. / Returned to road & drove back to Markwood Mdw. / Saw 3 separate gray squirrels today. Heard Mt. Quail at several sites. About dark, heard ~~pygmy~~ spotted owl about 1/4 mile N. of Markwood bldgs. / Calm, clear eve. Can see 100 snow flowers in a morning now; sometimes 4 stalks together. H Dozens of tiny fir seedlings / sq m in damp shady sites.

Walk 6 mi (est) car 5. 6 mi.

4 June 1974. Departed from Markwood Mdws. and drove via Friant and Madera to Berkeley.

8 June 1974. To Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co.

Departed 9 a.m. w. Ralph Gutierrez, student looking for Mtn. Quail, via San Jose to Jolon and Nacimiento Summit. / Saw one imm. golden eagle over flat of Hunter Liggett Mil. Res.; at Nacimiento talked w. USFS guards Greg Harmon and Roland Whited (of King City). Harmon said he had seen 2 pumas nearby last

Sal Elizando
the Indians
Fire Prev. Tech.

Greg Harmon

Roland whited

Journal

8 June 1974 Sat. To Shandon, SLO Co.

summer. He recommended Sal Elizando, guard at Indian Station, for local information. They said road to Buenos Mine, where Larry S. + Sue Wallen stayed, very poor, so we decided not to try it. We listened for Mtn. Quail, also drove 1/2 mi N + S on Coast Ridge Rte. listening + looking for tracks but detected none. / We returned E. down road. Saw one Crotalus crossing road. Many small imm. S. beecheyi among valley oaks on flat of HLM Res. / Continued on to Bradley, S. to Paso R., thence E. to S. McMillan Ranch. Talked w. him about condors + quail. / In old grain bin near old house, I found a juv. Sorex (put alive in [lost later] jar). We saw groups tiny valley quail, about 25 with one adult pair. / Clear + calm eve. / Saw second g. eagle, adult, nr. Nacimiento Summit, in air.

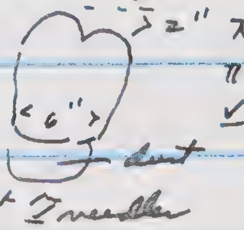
9 June 1974. Sun. Pozo Summit, San Luis Obispo Co.

Drove to Pozo Summit + left truck. Gutierrez + I hiked S. up fire-break on ridge. (We saw pair Mtn. Quail at about 2500', to E. of summit). Left summit 0720. Tracks of about 3 deer, including fawns, fairly continuous. Frequent good tracking dust. Clear, wind 5 mph. Smoothed ground w. rake for later tracks. Frequent tracks of Mtn. Quail on trail but heard none. Quiet at this stage repro. cycle? Too late in morning? Saw Bewick wren, ash-throated flycatcher, sage sparrow, plain titmouse, wrentit. At Rich Ranch sign at divide at 0855. Took trail to W. after pine area (where scratches found on previous visit), about 3/4 mi. out ridge, found tracks one puma. Pad 55 H wide; front pad 65; across toes 83. Dust thin and tracks incomplete. Middle posterior lobe even or posterior to lateral lobes; center

Journal

9 June 1974 La Panza Range, San Luis Obispo Co.

lobe 20 mm wide. About 1 mile out, peak on ridge where old tripod marker. Track started downslope on trail to W. about 50 yds. down, in pine needles where dubious small scratch found on last trip, a fine scratch, 3' from the old one. Anterior



KX #20 #1,2 uneven, largest on L side. Photoed. Another fresh scratch

Kx3 5 yds. downslope, 7" wide, 7½" long, + dust slope + needles pile posteriorly. L foot lead 1". apparently cat went on down to W. / We returned to Nick Ranch sign (1115). Then walked along ridgetop trail to S. ~~aft~~ about ½ mile to iron pipe gate; 100 yds. beyond, puma track again, apparently same cat, somewhat older tracks. In thin dust, 55 wide pad; another 60 pad & 93

track across toes. Another 55-79; 56-82. One foot led 6" in line. 56-81. Heading S. / 1220, turned back to N. Put Lysol on 2 cleared spots. Continued on to ~~La~~ Pozo Summit, arriving 2 p.m. No new tracks ~~on~~ (except lizards) on soil raked on way up hill. Hot day (95° at J. McM. ranch). Also saw about 5 Cathartes (3 most together), violet-green swallows, hairy ? woodpecker, western tanager in pines. Saw 2 large and 1 small Phrynosoma on trail, several Sceloporus (occidentalis ?).

to W-A No snakes. / We drove back E., then to Navajo (≈300') Camp. Found quail tracks but probably valley quail. Only saw one carload

w. 8 (rt) people; little traffic today. / Returned to McM. Ranch. Talked w. Dan again. / Walk 8 miles (rt.) Count 4 mi. tracking dist. afoot, W-A.

10 June 1974. To Avenales Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co.

Drove early to Navajo Camp & summit. Saw number of Lophortyx quail but no Oreortyx. Continued on to Avenales Ranch. At 0700, started walk to Balm of Gilead camp from Salinas R. road. At Sall-

Journal - (puma study).

10 June 1974 Mon. Avenales - Pozo area, S.L. Obispo Co.

Aus Potrero, saw a Falco mexicanus circling over us, occasionally calling. RG thought he heard another to E; a juv. in tree? Nearest cliffs a mile to E. (Again saw this hawk, same place, 2 hrs. later.) We found tuft of Oreortyx feathers on trail near B. of G. camp. Logs now fairly dry; found no salamanders in 10 min. search. I visited pass to Stony Cr. area; no puma sign. Put Lysol at bush near clear soft ground.

walk 4 1/2 mi. Returned to main road. / Drove then to ~~Avenales~~ Avenales Sta.; talked w. 3 USFS guards, including Jim Bean, who will stay at the station this summer. Then on to Avenales ranchhouse. ~~Ft~~ No recent puma info except possible track in Eberly pasture (John Arnold saw it, thought hound). / Drove up to Pilitas Pasture. Parked & walked N. on ridge trail. Went 1/2 hr. then

walk 1 mi (est) the chapparal belt + inspected tracking areas. No puma tracks (tho have found here 2 or 3 x before). / A turkey vulture noisily flapped low overhead, pursued by a sharpshinned hawk, which continued to follow the vulture at about 5 yds. / Returned to road and drove on up to microwave station. Warm midday; no quail seen. No puma tracks found in brief spotty search. / Returned to canyon bottom + left ranch for Pozo station. On way, passed 35 acre new burn of grass, brush, with several fire trucks on road. / Carlin Talked w. John Arnold; he said had seen at times 20 or more Mtn. Quail near Machesna Spring, at Machesna Potrero. / We drove up to Hi Mtn. lookout. Same ♀ lookout (Val -) there as last year. She said had seen both valley & mtn. quail last year. Had seen peregrine falcon late last summer, none yet this year. / We returned to Pozo summit at

day tr w-6 c-2 7 p.m. Saw no Mtn. Quail. Listened for calls. RG walked up firebreak & found lizard tracks, snake tracks, + some quail tracks on spots we cleared yesterday morning. Returned to J. McM. Ranch

Journal

10 June 1974 San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

We saw a Mustela frenata at roadside at Pozo. Watched it 5 minutes. It ran toward flock small birds on ground; birds flushed at about 5'. Perhaps juv. weasel. (I had seen one on road near Hollis Canyon on last visit to S.L.Obispo Co.) Red Hills area, San Luis Obispo Co.

11 June 1974. Tuesday. Another hot clear day. Conferred w. Dan re off-road vehicle & Black Mtn. developments. Then went over hills E. to visit Elm McMillan & talk about Mt. Quail, condors, pumas, rodent poisoning. By telephone, found 1080 aerial poisoning for squirrels scheduled for today at Henry Twisselman ranch, about 15 mi. S. of E-W highway up Bitterwater Valley. / Elm told of several places near Deer Park, Quatal, & Apache canyons in upper Cuyama area, and slopes SW of Mt. Abel, where he had seen Mtn. Quail. He had photoed 2 groups about 8 at one spring. Otto Wegis, local rancher, knew all the springs and water holes. / We drove S. about 8 miles to H. Twisselman ranch, among rolling brown grass hills. Mrs. T. said poisoning delayed until Thursday. Squirrels doing great damage to grain. Was warned to keep dogs + cats in. This area is condor feeding ground, on a flight path, + also is in S.J. Kit Fox grounds. / We drove N to Cholame, gassed up. Thence to Shandon & back to McM. ranch. Prepared to spend night at Pine Mtn. area above Queen Bee camp. / Secured permission from USFS to use Pine Spr. road. Drove there; 1.7 mi. from gate to ridge. Camped .4 mi. N, where trail to W. starts, in Coulter pines. Saw 2 mtn. quail by road. Found M. quail tracks too, in road dust. I walked ½ N. on ridge, raking ground smooth at spots. Puma tracks continued heading N. past camp; same set as 2 days ago. Photoed track, pad 55 mm. 1-2 sets deer tracks constant. (Saw 2 forked horn bucks on meadow under cottonwood near house yesterday.)

walk 3 ½ mi ck it

K x 4

walk Pg.-4 mi

Journal

11 June 1974. Big Mtn., San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

Saw 1 chipmunk at edge chaparral. I also walked trail to w., which led to Pine Springs Camp (wooden sign) about 3000'. Creekbed there, recently dried but water in it to w. No puma sign, no fresh coyote scats, but many deer tracks in trail. / Clear warm eve. Heard Bubo calls. / R.G. had hiked road toward other Pine Spr., to S. Had seen many Mtn. Quail tracks, ~~but~~ especially near Coulter pines, but heard no calls (one possible, alarm). / Camped

12 June 1974. Up at sunrise. RG walked ~~N.~~ S. I went N. & looked at my cleared spots, for ½ mi. of trail. Dipodomys tracks on several, but no quail tracks by 0610 (back at camp). / A purple-flowered Ceanothus in bloom now. / I had put lysol spot on some clearings; no canine or attraction noted. Tracks apparent fox in one clearing. / Then I walked W. down to meadow of Pine Spr. Heard & saw soil Lophortyx, including persistent "caw" call. Probably no grazing in meadow. Saw 2 does. Fresh bear tracks (105 mm front pad) by water. Much clear water in sections streambed to w. No puma or fresh carnivore sign. Only 20 min. walk from water to rim, so sufficient for quail at latter. / RG returned about 0830. He said he had seen one Oreortyx at close range on road, but had heard no calls. They are here but secretive & silent. No fresh tracks noted. / Clear & warm w. E. breeze in trees. We drove down to Queen Bee camp, thence to Mc M. ranch and to Berkeley.

w-2 walk 2 mi CK at 2 mi RG at

15 June 1974. Saturday. Left Berkeley about 11 am for Shaver Lake area, Fresno Co. Arrived 3 p.m. at Markwood Meadow camp. Heard Mtn. Quail calling, at least 3 at once. Saw chickaree near buildings. Flushed one Mtn. Quail in sl another patch. Saw one varying hare near buildings, tame, in herbage. / with son Ralf, who was looking for chickarees. / We searched briefly at Vista Pt. opposite Swanson Mdws. Also at Bald Mtn. Summit area,

Journal

15 June 1974. S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

where large sugar pines w. many cones, and old seed cones on ground below. Fewer of Ponderosa pine. Saw one Douglas squirrel there. / No snow patches at 6500' level now. / Saw chipping sparrows, robins, juncos, W. tanager, steller jays, ravens.

start Markwood Mdws., Sierra NF.

16 June 1974. about 0630, heard Mtn. Quail calling. Heard chickaree close & saw one in trunk 5 yds. from our trailer. Drove E. to Hatch Lake road and up it. Graveled about 3 mi. Branches to E. Last 4 mi. toward Hatch Lake were poor 4 w.d. road. Bear Creek branch dirt & good condition; pleasant area in conifers near the creek. Saw no chickarees, but occas. Citellus lateralis or beecheyi. Returned to Wishon Rd. / Checked roadside sec. 27 & 26 where scent stations; deer tracks on spots, none of puma. Also checked roadlet 1/2 mile S. of Gigantea camp, where I took an Ensatina eschscholtzii in rotten log near edge green swamp in red fir - inc. cedar. No puma tracks; raccoon, coyote or deer track. / Continued on to Wishon Village & met Leif Voeltz, of Fresno State U., who had coyote scat & scent station project in 9 sq. mi. of Teakettle Exp. area & adjacent. He had seen puma track at W. edge, about 1 mi. NE of Rose Mdw., (summer 1973) and near Sawmill Flat, about 1/2 mile NW of campground. He has motorcycle & would help in road censuses. / We drove to Sugarpine Hill & back, placing puma posters at 2 trailheads; another at Wishon Store. / We drove then to Shorthair Creek. Hiked up to Hall Mtn. & along ridge curving W. & N. to near Shorthair Peak. - good bearish ground & many deer tracks, sometimes sets of 10 or more tracks, but no puma or fresh coyote sign. (When about 2 1/2 mi. up Hatch Lake rd., heard the coyote chorus to S.) We saw deer up to 8500' - about 3 in all. One ♂ had start of forks in velvet.

coll. salam.

reports to

Journal

16 June 1974. S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

tw W-A C-A — antlers. Fawn (unspotted) S of start of Huntington L. road. / Fairly large no. cars of fishermen now; often 10 or + parked. Some backpackers - about 6 cars at Crown Valley trailhead, 3 at Woodchuck. / Returned to camp at Marlwood Mdws. Heard Mtn. Q. in evening.

c. walk - 6 mi. (2 st) — car 4 mi.

17 June 1974. Departed for roadwork. Self stayed at Marlwood to watch Tamiasciurus douglasii. Heard these & Oreortyx in morning. / Drove to near Dinkey Cr. & down road to Rose Crossing. At 0.2 mi. saw gray squirrel, about 5800'. Hard graveled road, but several dirt side roads + turnouts. Logging near road. Mostly red fir on this E aspect slope. +1.5 mi, 5800'; nest hole of whiteheaded woodpecker 6' up in 12' stub (no bark) in open by roadside; I heard young chirping within. Found fresh deer & coyote tracks in nearly all dirt areas. Saw one doe. About 8? miles down, changed to little gravel, better tracking, more brushy openings. Cattle tracks on rd. (+ 6.6 mi, branch to W. (11S91); 1.6 mi. on, branch W. to Oak Flat.) Down to Rose

S, car road - 5 mi — Crossing (4825'). / Met Fence Mdw. LO man, who said winter reported glimpse of puma on road up to LO. / Drove slowly up Patterson Mtn. rd. to Patterson Ridge (5200'). Deer & coyote tracks almost constant. Quail calls frequent in brush. Where road turned sharp to E, parked & examined top of bluffs where many deer & coyote tracks (& scats). Much open area w. low Ceanothus (blue flowers). Cleared ground for tracks; put lysol some. About 1/4 mi. E., small trail-road 4wd to above bluffs & on to E. - good for tracking, & needles for scratches. Followed it 1/2 mile. Deer & coyote tracks. Variety of flowers. Bobcat tracks. / Back on main road,

5 car - 9 mi, bike ?, foot 2 mi — continued on to next switchback (on Rose Cr. Road); ~~± 7~~ 8.5 mi. from Rose Crossing. Descended faster, but searching. Bear cub track one site, on Rose Creek. / I slowly drove then to Rattling Saddle (7.7 fr. R. Cr.), where heard quail calls (1830).

+7 +2 — Drove on (graveled) to Rattling Spr., sawmill jct, - then good dust for (.7 mi.) -

c-22 w-2 — & Dinkey Cr. rd. / To Marlwood Mdws. There talked w. Carl Cummings of

Mt. Q uail notes-
Paul Shields - USFS, Utah (?)

Journal

17 June 1974   S Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

Calif. F&G lab. He worked on necropsies, 2 yrs. Said many pumas brought in compared to formerly (14?); mostly road kills; several w. porcupine quills. Also talked w. Bill Stewart of F&G. He thought puma rare here now. In old days he had trapped in area betw. Bass Lake & present Mammoth Pool; said not many pumas there - more on Madera side (=?). Ranger of Pineridge district coming Thursday (C. Lowery): interested puma counts. / Ron Bertram gave me 2 plaster casts puma track from Nutmeg Saddle, 13 May 1964! / Ralf had watched Douglas squirrels all day; said at least 3 juvs.; they used 2 holes about 30' up in a red fir tree at SW corner red cabin.

18 June 1974. Camped at Markwood Mdws. Talked w. Bill Stewart & C. Cummings of F&G. Ralf watched chickarees. I drove to Shaver Lake for gas. Then on to Musick Mtn. rd. Saw one gray squirrel at foot, 5400'. Slowly up 3 mi. dirt road to LO; no puma tracks found [seen in '73]. Talked briefly w. LO ♀. Then down & to Big Creek ranger sta. Talked w. clerks, but forester out; left posters. / Then drove N. on Stump Springs Rd.; about 5500' on E. side of San Joaquin River valley. Logging in first several miles, & road construction. Road fairly oiled, but outer graded ridge suitable for tracks. Occas. stops to search bare & needled ground for sign. Mainly Ponderosa Pine. Camp Cr. area in old (1939) burn, now many pines to 30'. Unoiled but hard road after 10 mi (Horsethief Cr.). Visited Doulton Sta., 1 mi. on dirt road - no puma reports; left poster. On to W. Kaiser Campgr., then road ascended, narrower. Many NE slopes pure red fir. At 7600', first aspens; also junipers. About 1/3 snow on peaks to S., which were bare granite. Last 4 mi. on narrow road thru small lodgepole pines. On over Kaiser Pass (9000' lodgepole & rocks), back to Shaver L. & Markwood Mdws. / There met the F&G crew, including Gordon Ashcraft, old timer. He said that a year ago he saw puma track

tr. c-13

Journal

18 June 1974 S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

on pass W. of Hall Mtn. USFS foreman, Jones, reported hearing of sighting near Courtright Village, Bertram told me. / Ashcraft told me formerly many pumas in Mendocino NF area near Anderson Ridge, Sheetiron, & Skelton Glade (?). / Ron said 13 May puma track around curve just N. of Nutmeg Saddle, in drying mud. / Street said formerly good lion hunting along fault on Sequoia N.F. Oak Grove to Mills Ranch also good. (Kern area) = Rincon trail.

19 June 1974. Markwood Mdw. Cold morning. First Tamiasciurus out of hole 0615. Went to Dinkey F.S. gor. R.S., where Al Jones, foreman, told me that a man at Courtright Vill. told him that he saw lion tracks betw. village & foot of lake, & also near Helm. / Another man in station said a hound hunter last fall said he had treed a lion 3 x in Providence Cr. - Barnes Mtn. area. / I drove toward Wishon - checked "scent posts" at 2 spots 1/2 mile beyond Bear Cr., walked a pine ridge beyond Gigantea camp (many old squirrel cone-cores below sugar pines). / Took first Patterson Mtn. road. Good dust (log trucks). Crossed Deer Cr. 6200'. Some fresh deer tracks. Went on 1 1/2 mi. & took lower road - good dust as recent logging. Tracks coyote, bobcat, mouse, quail, few deer. Road descended to Bull Cr. (2 mi.), then harder surface (connects w. Ross Crossing rd.?). Walked on 1/2 mi. & back. / Returned to main rd. - hard, w. fine gravel. Large granite outcrops upslope a mile before Ross Creek (6900'). Ross Mdw. several acres green grass w. cattle. Top bluffs about 9 mi. from Dinkey - Wishon rd. Searched dirt roads above bluffs, also my "scent posts" (coyote tr. but not at scent). / I drove down Bear Wallow rd. 2 mi., then walked starting 5200'. Flat pad at 4800'. Good tracking ground in dust - coyote, deer tracks, no puma. 4500', another flat pad; black oak & oak brush zone; good tracking. Walked under black oaks 100 yds., then opening (old clearing) w. brome grasses, scattered shrubs, many doves, poor tracking. Continued to lower ridge, 3400'. Trail to N curves down to Dinkey creek. Fine view of Dinkey falls. / Return-

s. 4 cor, st
1 ft, st

—

+ [illegible]

[illegible] 4

Bill Douglas - (Chipmunk) Valley
squirrel?

Bill Stewart - 291-3382 (home)
Fresno

Journal (puma study)

19 June 1974 S. Sierra N.F.

5 car - 3 at
walk
5 min at

ed uphill. about 1 hr 25 min. up, 1¼ down. | Back up to main rd, 1.1 mi. 1830
Drove then via Ross Crossing, Sawmill Rd. (N. of Oak Flat rd. - dirt, rutted, but fair for tracking another time.) Returned to Markwood M. |
Ron Bertram recently found 2 newborn fawns in Sugar Pine hillarea. Also a

day
C -5
W -4

wolverine track had been found in that area (G. Ashcroft photo). One man said young grouse brood seen recently. None had seen Oreortyx brood.
20 June 1974. Cool clear morning. Markwood Mdw. Ralf watched Tamias senex. Bertram groups out deer hunting. Pinehurst ranger due today. |
Talked w. Gordon Ashcroft, F & G. He told of experience in 1950's with pumas in Mendocino N.F., w. of Stonyford. From Low Gap, sign + scratches along Cold Creek trail to W. Anderson Ridge Rd. (w. of Sheetiron Mtn.), a saddle crossing in center. Locality about 4 mi. E. of Bloody Rock. Saw 1 a mile W. of Lower Rye camp. Saw one on road about 3 mi. SE of Sheetiron Mtn, on road. Bill Thornton, F & G Williams now, knows area & hunting. Gene Peterson, formerly, Kelseyville, was hound puma hunter too. At Lower Lake former lion hunters w. USFS (= Hensley). | Sierra N.F., Ben Flanagan packer at Tremmer, may have puma info. | Ashcroft & W. Stewart told me of seeing dragged carcass (marks on trail) near Fin Rock, about 2 mi. S. of Crown Valley Sta. - 3-4 yrs. ago (O. st.). Tombstone Ridge, E. of Geraldine Lakes, looks like good puma country (G.A.). | I met Chuck Lowery, Resources Officer at Pinehurst, Sequoia N.F. - he wants to help w. animal surveys there; ORV + houndsman problems too. Bill Stewart offered to go w. me, mid July. | Steve Holl, former Davis student who micro-topsied deer, also present. | Stewart told of records of fisher in Sequoia area - Pearl Lake (Murphy, NPS), Cherry Gap (Bill Douglas), other | about 1 PM., I searched partial trails on ridge across rd. to S. of Markwood. Ashcroft told of hunter platforms in trees in that area, farther W.

Journal (puma)

20 June 1974 S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

Found coyote remains; probably within a few months (teeth in good condition; not eaten, but much hair). | Walked a trail to E. leading from E. side of Summit Cr., apparently old logging RR grade. About 1/2 mile good tracking, then too brushy. Heard Mtn. Quail calls often. Tracks of coyote, bobcat, occas. deer. Good for scent post. | To Denby for supplies, then down to Nutmeg Saddle. Searched cutoff road to W. 1/2 mile; fine tracking - coyote, bobcat, 2-3 deer, no puma. Also searched edges for 1/2 mile N., where 13 May track found (put scent sta.). | Also brief search of trails at Lost Meadow - looked good for tracking to W. | Returned to Marlwood Mdw. To Berkeley, Calif.

5. walk 4 rt

6 car 4

21 June 1974. Prepared to depart. Ralf watched squirrels. Found freshly dead Sciurus griseus on road at Swanson Meadows (made flat skin), a ♀, lactation almost nil, faint ut. scars. Took juv. ♀ T. douglasii to Berkeley alive (died overnight - 100 gms.) To Plaskett Mdws., Mendocino Co.

25 June 1974. Departed Berkeley midday, with Erik K., for Mendocino N.F. via Willows (125 mi. to W.). W to Elk Creek area, then N., then W. Rolling grasslands w. blue oaks; chaparral started at about 1000' - much chamise on long slopes. About 3500', into small P. ponderosa. Also Douglas fir, white fir, incense cedar. Logging roads frequent. Paved & hard graveled dirt roads, tho logging roads may be good for tracking pumas. Over 5500' pass, down then to Plaskett Mdws. in large P. ponderosa & red fir. We saw 2 chickarees, 2 C. lateralis squirrels - little wildlife seen. Few visitors - traffic rare. About 50 campers at Plaskett Lakes. | Expected to find Don Hemphill & students at Masterson camp, but no one there. Cold evening; camped at Masterson c/g. A few bats over Plaskett Lakes (dammed ponds w. planted trout.)

Journal (puma study)

26 June 1974 Mendocino N.F., Calif.

Departed Plaskett Mdws. Drove NW to Mendocino Pass, 5000'. A few miles thru sq mi of garry oak on slopes. Dust good on some sideroads + turnouts. Occas. deer tracks, & ~~rats~~ raccoon, but no coyote tr. or droppings! / Drove N. out Board Ridge rd. a mile; good tracking - IC, DF, PP zone. Back W. + N. to Anthony Pk. LO (no one there), where good views to Twin Pks., Bald Mtn., & Round Valley area. 6000'+ alone, largely bare, or low shrubs - windy? Patches of old snow still. Next, N. to Gait Flat, where was center of construction eqpt. + some families living. Out to E. to Sugar Spr., Rock Spr. (soil houses down-slope), Sunnyside area. / Met there 2 USFS men; one long service but knew of no puma recently except nr. "Dough Hill," the pickup incident. He said many "hogs" in area N. of ~~goat~~ Gait Flat (= wild pigs?). / We drove back W. via Grindstone Cr., a clear rocky stream about 6' wide (trout to 8"), & up Board Ridge road to Mendocino Pass. / Back to Plaskett Sta. (PUC group not there). / Then on S. toward Sheetiron Mtn. Most of larger road hard & gravelly, poor for tracks. We descended small road to E. fk. Corbin Cr. to camp. / During day saw about 3 Beechey gr. sq., 10 chipmunks, 10 C. lateralis. One set coyote or fox tracks, no bear sign. 2 chickarees, 2 Mtn. Quail (heard more). Saw 3 reddish ♀ deer, tamish. In all, not rich in animals or sign. No motorcycles or hounds seen, nor signs. Rare bullet holes in signs. Very few recreationers (Wednesday). Probably lions mostly in chaparral - yellow pine edge region.

Foot 2
Car 10

27 June 1974. Thurs. To road & drove S. Saw Mtn. Quail at 4800'. Calm, clear. Yellow pine belt. Went E. on Tool Cache ridge rd. about 1 mi; coyote, deer, bobcat tracks. Drove S. Saw doe + 2 spotted fawns nr. road. Went up road to top Sheetiron Mtn. No lookout, but old buildings (2). Fine views all around, including Pillsbury Lake to W. Posted puma sign. Much low brush, shale, on mtn. Back down to ~~Pacific ...~~ Pacific Crest road, then

Journal

27 June 1974 Mendocino N.F., Calif.

W. on Anderson Ridge road. Saw Y-horn buck deer w. ♀. / Met USFS men, including the one who had seen puma on road nr. Alder Springs at 11 a.m. one day. He knew of no other recent records. One man mentioned place where hounds-men often stopped on Pacif. Crest rd. nr. Lettan + 20N. Road went out

5/4 w. mi. 10.6 mi. (to end of E. spur; spur 2 mi. - we did not take w. spur). From about 5 to 9 mi. out, fair tracking - otherwise too gravelly. Pine, D fir,

c. 12 mi. white fir. Much to be logged soon; Anderson Cr. timber sale. / We walked down steep slope to Anderson Cr. Rocky, clear, many overhanging branches; trout to 7", mostly < 5." Bobcat & deer tracks on sand banks. Returned to Pac. Crest. Drove to Low Gap. (Road via Black Diamond to Stonyford was closed), but first part appeared good for tracks (2 records 2-3 mi. E). Went to a camp about 1/4 mi. SE of Low Gap. To E. of it, old road section w. pine needles - some apparent puma scratches, but not sure - no footprints. Sand Raked clear 2 areas on road & put Lysol bait. / We also walked 1/2 mile out Bear Wallow trail, to S. - fair for tracks; many deer tracks, one bobcat, bear droppings. / This area has many short roads & some trails suitable for tracking. / At camp, ♂ deer in velvet & small doe very tame; came to 10 yds., ate bread. We saw about 8 deer during day, all rather tame (= no pumas near?). Heard poor-will in eve, calling. Camp in pines & Garry oaks on knoll; no water.

28 June 1974. From Low Gap camp, took trail down Cold Cr. to W, starting about 5100'. Apparent bear droppings. Many deer tracks. Some Mtn. Quail tracks & dust bowls (no calls). About 40 min. to stream in rocky bed under Douglas fir. Saw Western Tanager. Gray squirrel - nr. oak trees, in conifer. About 4300'. Varied mixed vegetation of manzanita, garry oak, black oak, pines, D.F. About 1 hr. down, 4000'; small

Journal

28 June 1974. Fri. Mendocino Co., Calif.

dry meadow — DF, PP, Bl. Oak around. Brush, occas. other meadows. About 2 hrs. down, 3300'; another meadow. Steep toward Cold Cr. to N. Trail then descended across & down slope. Reached creek 0939 2h 20m.
5th w-6 from start, at 3000'. Clear, rocky bed, trout to 8" — log jams, boulders. / In sand I found peculiar deer antler, main branch at base. Bear track in sand. Creek about 10' wide; blue sandstone. Alders, maples, DF, madrone along stream; canyon live oaks. Flatter & more open downstream, toward Eel R. No signs of human use! No puma sign, tho deer tracks plentiful. / Hiked back to Low Gap in 3 hrs. Then drove SW via Bevery Flat on road to Upper Lake. Paved road thru large P. pines. At Summit Rd., rd. unpaved & narrow, but good for tracks, to Lower Nye camp. Then more gravelly, but about 1/2 mi. SW of Lower Nye, Eric spotted puma track on outer roadside at a bend
track to L. Measured: 50 pad 70 toe width, 53-73 (front) 1"; p.55, p.52 t.70. 3000'. Area high shrubby live oaks, about 12' tall, but chaparral & Digger pine within 1/2 mile, & large meadow to W.
c-6 (Skeleton Glade?). Site .2 mi. before Skeleton Glade–Bloody Rock turnoff. Very hot clear day at 3000'. Road winding, dusty. Hundreds of sq mi of chaparral on hills. Wider W. of Bear Cr. Then paved on main rd. to L. Pillsbury. At Upper Lake, all gas stations closed (tho not dark yet). Drove via Ukiah to Berkeley.

5 July 1974. Fri. To San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

With Ralf & Eric Koford, dep. Berkeley 1 p.m. and drove S. via San Jose to Shandon and I. McMillan ranch. Conferred w. Ian re condors, 1080, ORV's.

6 July 1974. Saturday. From ranch, drove to Pozo Summit, parked, & hiked up ridge to S., searching for puma tracks. None found, but deer tracks 1-2 fairly constant, & occas. fox, coyote, or raccoon. Heard no Oreortyx. At rim (jct. to Meade

Journal

6 July 1974. Pine Mtn, San Luis Obispo Co, Calif

Ranch) took w. Branch. 1½ hrs. from pass to find pines, where old scratches. Continued on W. to peak w. old wood Δ. No tracks puma. Old scratches 100 m. w. still clear, in pine needles. No response pumas apparent at several areas cleared & dosed w. Lysol.

c. walk 7 (3 rt) We returned to Neils R. jct. Rolf & Erik then tracked toward Pine Springs road (1¼ hrs.) along ridge, while I descended to car at Pozo Summit. / I drove to La Panza station & talked w. fire crew (Juan Ortiz), then to Queen Bee & up Pine Springs road to

Rx ⇒ Hi mtn / 15 get boys. They had found no puma tracks; had gone ¼ mile S. of jct. We returned

to dogs C 1 / W A to Mc M. ranch.

7 July 1974. I departed about 0430 & drove via highways 58 & 101 to Santa Maria, then Cachuma Saddle USFS sta. - 130 mi. about 3000' there. Talked w. guards Reid Hopkins & Larry Balzer. They thought road-trail to N. good for puma sign & had heard of sightings puma in region Figueroa mtn. / Harley Greenian & Bill Smith (Santa Barbara) arrived. We took 3 horses & 1 pack mule & started about 0930 for Mission Pine area. Road closed by locked gate. Fair tracking soil. Brush patches, old burns, some deer tracks constant. Probably missed some puma tracks. Dog tracks

track on road. about 5000', in live oak area, found puma track (when dismounted), apparently fresh. Pad 50-53 wide - about 80 lbs.? Tracks continued about ¼ mile. One spring & occasional passes & saddles. Smith said deer crossings. Good for track searches? Large bear track on road. Steep slopes, chaparral, some Pseudotsuga on shaded slopes. About 1320, Mc Kinley springs; water trough. Good views down canyons 5400'. to W. Lunch stop. Then short way to road end & helipad; start trail to Santa Cruz. Then up rocky narrow trail at top steep slope to San Rafail Peak, 6,500', 1420, at edge yellow pines of Mission Pine. Saw mtn. quail tracks along trail but saw none. Occas. fox & coyote tracks - but few, & no bobcat tr. seen. Probably considerable hunting along road. Smith said had seen puma track at edge pines on previous trips. He had many tales of trips w. D. Carrier & F. Sibley in condor nest searches. / Small & large yellow pines. Sandstone boulders & low

Journal

7 July 1974. Sun. Mission Pine, Santa Barbara Co, Calif.

cliffs. Also incense cedar, sugar pine, coulter pine - one clump red fir. Coarse sandy soil. Horses not made trailing insufficient. Some hound tracks (from previous trips of Smith). Reached M.P. Spring camp at 1600, 5600'. Good water in small stream. Large pines, incl. tiger wet meadow flowers (tiger lilies). Saw one *Sciurus g.* & many fresh cone cores ~~caps~~ (green digger pines at lower elev, 4000'), incl. sugar pine - apparently little low nos., however. I walked 1/2 mile E. to first pass on trail. No puma sign (coarse sand). W.W. Pewee, juncos, flickers. Few birds in general; few Steller jays. Heard Bubo in late eve. Cool calm clear night.

Est to Horses W 1

8 July 1974. Mon. Leave 0730 on horses for Falls Canyon. Up & down, rocky, brushy. One area pinon pines. Live oaks about 5000' mostly. Occas. coyote tracks & one set of bear tracks. Few deer tracks. 1000, Mission Pine Basin & trail signs (Sisquoc River 8, Santa Cruz Cr. 14). Searched for water in draws, but found none now. Smith said saw Mtn. Quail broods here in June. / 1020, over low crest to N. slope, where greener, large pines at head Falls C. / We went down trail, ~~poor~~ much of it too brushy for horse riding. (Ranger is allowing to grow over). 1130, opposite former condor roosting cliffs 4200'. Only whitewash in one spot under overhang (ravens?). ~~1200~~ 1330 started back up / One possible puma scratch in oak leaves on shaded trail; about ~~16~~ 8" long, dug in 1" in double groove. 4800'. No cattle here. 1420, back among big yellow pines (to 4' dbh) at head Falls C. Smith & Brieman explored near creek, while I searched around trees & snags for condor evidence - found none. / Light breeze, thin cirrus clouds. Rode back to Mission Pine Spring camp (arr. 6 p.m. - 2 hrs. from M.P. basin) over rough rocky up & down terrain. Saw only one red-tailed hawk, one Bubo, no condors, occasional raven. Towhees in brush. No coyote calls heard at all.

TN June, 10

9 July 1974. Tuesday. Fog to W. Could see tops Santa Cruz & Anacapa Is. Saw 1 *Eutamias*. Water pools to 6'x8', 2' deep, clear. Bear tracks (of one). Explored near camp. Thomomys workings in patches, acorns & sticks in

CKoford 131

Journal

9 July 1974 Mission Pine, Santa Barbara Co.

rocks indicated Neotoma. / Dick Smith suggested puma sign areas. Santa Cruz C.: Zaca Ridge road; road Day Branch - Davis Place - Manzana; El Camino Cuesta, 3 mi. SW SM Pass, down into San Antonio Canyon (near

16-17 SR miles 7 hr.

Santa Barbara); Eagle Canyon, w. of ~~Santa~~ Goleta; Dick Johnson for info. / Sierra Madre Ridge & Bates Canyon. / We reached pass at upper end road 1230. Lunch stop. Then down road-trail to Cachuma Saddle, arriving about 4 pm. We parted & I drove back to Shandon area, San Luis Obispo Co.

10 July 1974. Wed. Departed 0430 w. Rolf & Erik. They had looked for tracks in Black Mtn.-Friis Camp area of La Panza range on foot &

distance?

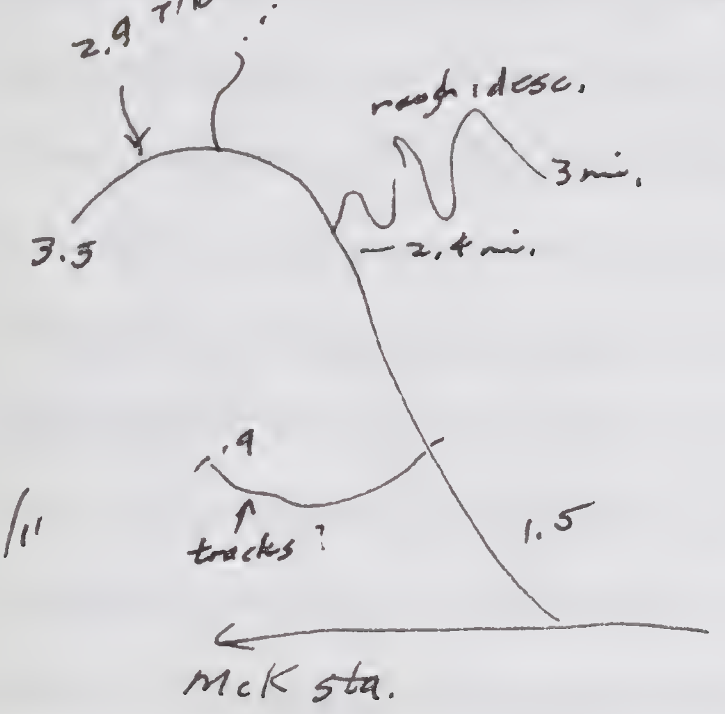
motorcycle but found no puma tracks. / Via Hanford, Visalia, Orosi to Dunlap and Pinehurst, near lower edge conifers. There met Chuck Lowery of USFS who gave us orientation. Floyd Jennings, silviculturist, said he had hunted pumas, knew J. Bruce. Said Sampson Saddle probably = Goat Saddle (recent name). Said far end McKenzie ridge good (now - for tracks), & especially end Converse Basin rd. He said had killed pumas near old Bretz Mill many yrs. ago. / Light rain yesterday had settled dust; cold & overcast today. / W. Lowery, we drove to McKenzie Sta. & talked w. Hal Wilson, USFS (lives Wilsonia). He had puma stories. ♀ & 2 cubs dead on road near Horseshoe Bend - Windy Cliffs area sev'l years ago. One seen near Panoramic Pt. (Park Ridge) in NE of Grant Grove section of N.P. sev'l yrs. ago. Also mentioned Camp 7 road for sighting. Has snowmobile business so may be good man for snow tracking info. He knew of no recent local tracks. But we drove out McKenzie ridge road & soon found one set puma

tracks

tracks in road. Small [?] animal; 53 H pad 93 toes. Perhaps a week old, fed before sprinkle. Tracks continued 1/4 mi. One 57 pad, another 63 (on downslope). End of W. spur about 6000'. Good tracking road - little traffic except woodcutters. / Then drove to Millwood, site of former mill.

McK. ridge -

7/11



Journal

10 July 1974 Wed. N. Sequoia N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

Then to Abbott Cr. on lightly graveled road, apparent old railroad grade.
Much bigtree (Sequoiadendron) logging in old days – big stumps. / Then
good dirt road winding up thru old burn (McGee burn), where
mostly large whitethorn ceanothus. ~~Fast~~ Few deer tracks, many cattle tracks.
C – 2, W – 2 Cart at 4-Corners. We took Converse Basin road, dustiest in area.
Thru fine area of old stumps bigtrees. Little time for track search.
Good for tracking, tho more wheeled traffic as nr. paved highway 180. / Back
to Grant Grove, where inquired for H. Shellhammer (Douglas squirrel man),
then back to MacKenzie Sta. where we camped. Clear cold night.

11 July 1974 Thurs. Clear, cool. Erik & Rolf went by motorcycle to survey
Mack. Ridge for tracks. I headed for ~~Millwood area~~ Millwood. about 1 mi. E. of McKenzie
Sta., spring w. Mtn. Quail brood, abt 1/2 grown. 5100'. Road to Millwood, largely
thru cedars & surface hard. M. to Abbott Cr. 5900', 3 mi., occas. track dog or coyote,
but ground too hard for good tracking. Slightly better for next 3 mi., to 4-corners;
KX 18 → McK. R. & Del 10 coyote tracks showed – then past old McGee burn; mostly large ceanothus. / At
4 corners, I took rd. for Hoist Ridge. Went about 4 mi., slowly. Mostly thru old
burns, redwood stumps, brush. Later w. mixed conifers. Road sign 4 w d, then
steeper; I walked 1/2 mi. to 6000' level. Heard gray squirrel. No puma sign. Mostly
MQ – 1, W – 1, C – 1 too hard for good tracking. / Returned to 4-corners. Met Erik & Rolf. They had done about
7 mi. on motorcycle (one way) on McKenzie, including sideroads, & about 1 mi. walking.
tracks Had found one additional track puma: 52 mm pad on hard ground (same as yesterday's cat?) – old – .4, .7, & .9 mi. down side trail. (see back pocket, page). / Then they
MQ – 3, W – 1 ~~went~~ tracked out Converse Basin rd. 1 1/2 mi. & out Rob Roy Hoist rd. (.6 mi.) – no puma
sign – but not to Cabin Cr. area. (Should do this & Kanyalanka ridge). / We drove via
Cherry Gap to Hume for gas. Then to Horseshoe Bend area to see area of sev-
day / C 17, W 2 (Herb Wilson info.) killed pumas nr. Boyden Cave (people at cave knew no more). Very steep slopes,
& cliffs next to road at bottom (so cats trapped ±).

Sequoia NF

7/12 4 Corners → Converse Basin Rd. 4 mi. (+ 4wd)

0

.8 rd. R Dust

2.3 past camp

3.1 Rob Roy rd. R. (II)

3.3 Stump mdw.

3.8 Boole tree trail (1 mi. to △)

4.1 End 2-wd road.

+ 1 mile 4wd to Cabin Cr. grove.

Sampson crest → Goat Saddle Dust
4600 3600

Hwy 180 0 (Dunlap →)

1.0 turnoff to D. Sta.

1.4 turnoff to Sampson Fl.

2.8 Start of downgrade (jct.)

7.8 Goat Saddle

16.8 Kings R. (Mill Cr. Camp) 1300'

Journal

12 July 1974 Fri. Kings River, Sequoia N.F.

Took a few hours for fishing in Boulder Creek, reached via about 1 mile trail from Boyden Cave area. Clear stream about 20' wide w. large pools in rock basins. / Saw one Catcher & was told there were many ~~others~~ (Ralf saw one near Ten Mile Cr. previous eve, nr. Bartons. Bartons is at small flat at foot chaparral slopes leading 5+ up to conifers - chaparral in Bruce hunting days?). We took 9 rainbows to about 9" & discarded many < 6". Colorful fish, orangish sides. Very steep rough rocky country in Kings R. canyon. / We drove up to Cherry Gap & 4-corners. Ralf went via motorcycle to visit Howard Shellhammer & talk Douglas squirrels. Eiko & I went out Converse Basin road. Traffic had spoiled tracking for day, but we tracked from start Rob Roy ~~past cutting~~ can jct. to road end, about 1 mi., then walked down to Cabin Cr. grove about 1 mile on 4wd road & cattle trails. This road good for tracking, but no puma sign and few of deer. (We found clear fresh bobcat tracks near Stump Mdw.). Intended to run Verplanck Ridge, but too tired & hot. / Ralf had visited Whitaker Forest hdqtrs., then to Lodgepole to visit Shellhammer. / We drove via McKenzie sta. area to Mill Flat Cr. road and descended toward Kings River. / Tracked from car for 5 mi. from crest (4600') to Goat Saddle (3600'). Good dust but earlier wheeled traffic; probably good early in day. Frequent dog tracks. / Kings River (1300') high & fast still. We drove on via Kirch Flat & Fence Mdw. road to nr. Dinkey Cr. & to Marshwood Mdw. camp.

ct w.

to. can 6
ft. 2

+

13 July 1974. about 7 a.m. saw juv.? chickaree near the nest in red fir; Ralf found adult. Clear, calm, cool. / We drove to Shaver ~~Hatch~~ Lake for gas. Then E. to Hatch Lake rd., up 3.2 mi. to turn to Bear Cr. (Heavy gravel to turn.) Left bags at creek & drove on E. - tracked by car 2 mi., then road forked - E. branch too hard; NE branch better for tracks.

Dinkey Cr. rd → Patt. Bl.

Dinkey Rd 0

FM turn R 2.5, dusty section nr Lost Mdw

.. end dust 4.2

Nutm. Spr. 4.6 – hard road, spotty

Nutm. Saddle 6.6 = 0.0

2.5 Oak Fl jct

Oak Fl. – 1 mi.

4.4 D Cr. jct. – spottly, hard surf.

6.6 Ross Cr. = 0.0

.4 sider. R.

.8 Rd. L – long tand

2.7 Yellow cat. gd.

4.1 Ross Cr.

5.9 Poison R.

6.1 Log rd. L., up

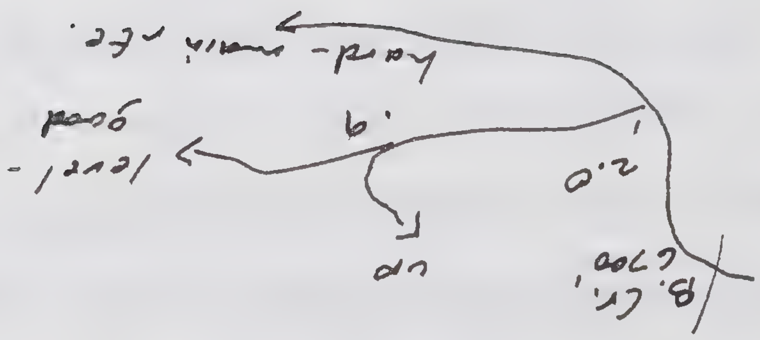
.3 Hd Bear W rd.

.8 B W cr.

7.2 turnout, Indian Rock,

7.6 P. Bl. turnout & trail
6000'

9.7 ~~Hatsp~~ pin R – sandy.
6200'



Journal

13 July 19~~6~~74. Sat. S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

.9 mi, then another fork. This in red fir, about 7000' - few deer tracks & no puma sign found - more promising to E. where some meadows (eg Snow Corral). | Returned to Hatch L. rd. & up to 10 S66 (Bear Mdw. jct.), & to NW. Partly paved; spot checks only. Bridge at Bear Mdw. cr. Then road broader, harder - but 2.4 mi. out blocked by tree (8100'). Best ~~auto~~ route to Nelson Mtn. area, probably. Branch

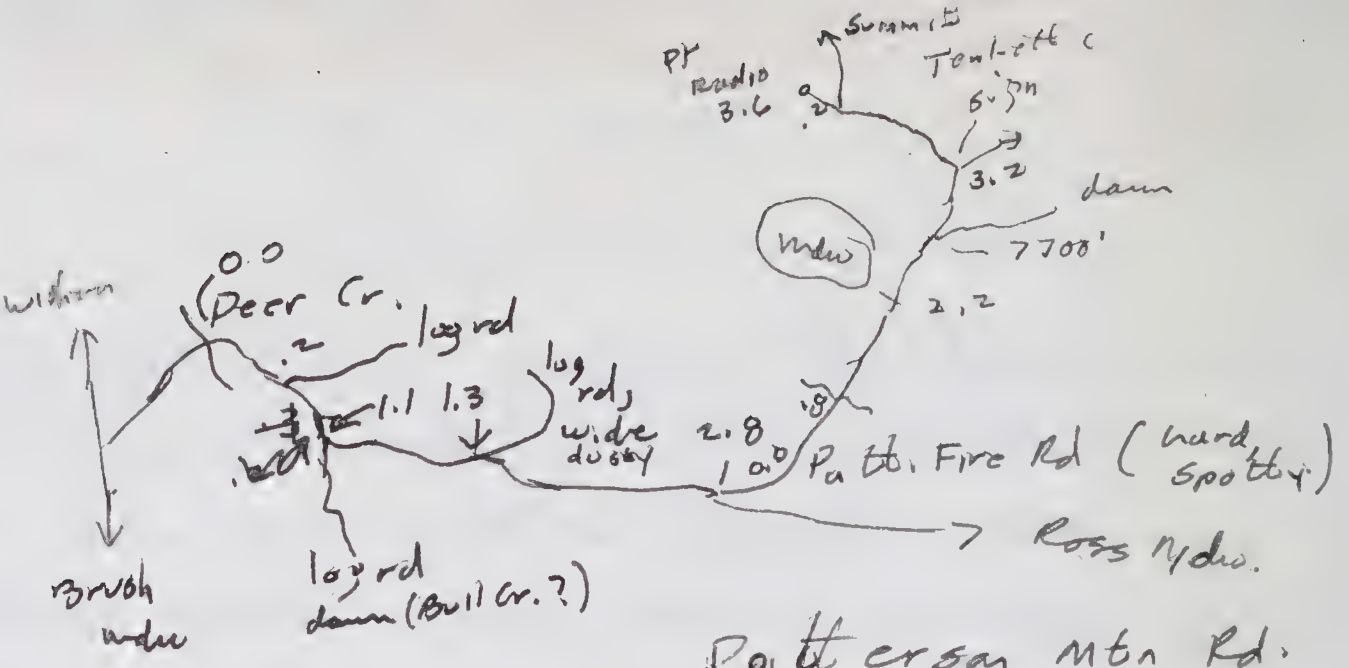
car 3
w. 3

to NW also blocked.) | Returned to Bear Cr. Rolf had found only 3 chickarees in 3 hrs. Drove then to Wishon area to visit Erik. Out Crown Valley trail about a mile - dusty, but dog, horse, & foot traffic obscured other tracks. (Rolf found a Charina bottae in bark of a big fir stub.) Rancheria Cr. yielded mostly Salmo trutta, to about 11", but some rainbows (S. gairdneri). Returned to Markwood. Saw only 2 deer during day, no fawns.

14 July 1974. Sunday. Calm, cirrus overcast. w. Rolf & Erik. Took road Dinkey Cr. to Ross Crossing, tracking. Road spotty tracking. Cattle tracks, hound, few deer. | Met man w. hound near Nutmeg Saddle; he said he saw puma track nearby 3 wks ago. Good dust on Oak Flat camp road, which we checked. Saw Mtn. Quail brood there, 1/2 gr. volant, 4 or +. Deer tr. ~~rare~~ rare. To Ross Crossing (boys fished & took upstream rainbows to 9"; browns lower down.) Tracked road to Patterson Bluffs - again spotty. One old bear track on edge rd. 5400'; one Mtn. Quail. (Gradually clouding; muggy.) about 6000'; above bluffs, occas. 1-2 deer only. No puma sign near my cleared & brushed spots. Searched 1/2 hr. on foot. To up road to sandy turn at 6200', then back down. 6200'; Mtn. Quail brood; young 1/3 grown but flew. | Sprinkle at night.

Tr. Rd. ~~20~~ 21
Foot 1.
c-21
w-1

15 July 1974. Cleared in morning. F & G crew arrived.



Patterson Mtn Rd.

7/15

From above, rd. goes 1½ mi to N. edge exp. area 7900'.

Then down to Tule Mdw rd. - 8.3 mi. from start fire road. (3 mi. from edge exp. area).

Journal

15 July 1974 Mon. S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

F&G crew arrived. The puma track reported previously had been on the berm of road about 1 mile this side of Nutmeg Saddle (a few wks ago - 13 May ?). | Drove E. & checked 3 sideroad sites in Bear Cr. - Gigantea area; no puma sign, including cleared areas. | Took first road (beyond Bungle Mdw.) to Patterson Mtn. Road spotty for tracking. Passed streamlet, meadow. Up to rolling red fir zone near summit. Little undergrowth. Into edge Teakettle Exp. area. Radio tower at top, 7900'. Then on 1.7 to N. edge exp. area, 7900'. There saw two chickarees, one apparently chased other across road; one froze on suf red fir trunk 6' from me. Only red firs around - 200 yds on, W. white pine w some fresh cone cones on ground. Meadow & low brush w/i 100 m. | Descending toward Tule Mdw, many cattle tracks. Tracking spotty. | Then checked sideroad near Sawmill Flat where Vaulty had reported track; red fir zone, poor tracking. | To Wishon Village to look for Vaulty, absent temporarily, but said to be camped on Patterson. They had 20+ lb. brown trout in refrig.; netted recently in Wishon Reservoir. Returned to Deer Creek head & picked up boys; they had taken several rainbows, some evidently planted catchables. | Found good rainbow - brown fishing in Bear Creek up Hatch L. rd., fish to 9". | Saw a porcupine in eve along this road. Clear.

16 July 1974 F. Talked w. Lou Bertram of F&G. He said formerly many deer taken on Patterson Mtn. in deer season, tho now poor. He told me of additional tracking roads. Fresno State students now making tame deer food study on Bald Mtn. road. He said FS had commented on tremendous sugar pine cone crop this year - we had observed it, sometimes 3 cones / branch.

For Info:

Charlie Moon - Willits (Mendoc. Co.)

Tom Ramsey - F & G - Red Bluff (Teh. Co.)

—

Todd & Virginia Keeler - Wolf

ranch near Richfield (Fa. has place nr. Hanwell Saddle)

916-824-5291.

1973 "a contrib. to the nat. hist. of the Yolla Bolly Mts. of Calif.

—

Ernest Yockey - now old - former USFS packer - tel. 934-4447

From Williams, w. → Clk.Cr., Rd.D. to N. to rd. 35 (dev. to N.), turn w., gate - beyond French Ranch 2 mi., out nr. Otterson (sp.?) Ranch.

Journal

16 July 1974 S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

Erik went by cycle to check Bald Mtn. road. We prepared to depart. / Ralf noted ♀ + 2 juvs. (T. douglasi) still using nest hole in red fir near red cabin. Trapped alive 1 Eutamias, + held alive (since last eve.). We drove back to Berkeley, arriving about 6 p.m.

spec.

23 July 1974. Departed Berkeley about noon and drove via highway 5 north to Willows, Glenn Co. There conferred w. John Lorenzana of USFS. No additional records of pumas. Don Hemphill had been in Chalcott Mdws. area early July. Deer buck kill of 73 - down over '72 in all but 4 counties; up in Trinity Co. Todd and Virginia Keeler-Wolf of Richfield, town nr. Corning, had done a 2 vol. Senior Thesis (of UC Santa Cruz) (1973) on natural History of North Yolla Bolly area; about half area in the Wilderness area. Lorenzana had copy - plants, insects, vertebrates. / a few of puma refs. included: half grown at Whiskey Saddle, 4700', July '71. Ad., Dark Canyon, 5600'; July '71. Ad., Fern Pt., 4200'; 14 July '71 (?). deer kill, Long Gulch, 3100'; 19 May '73. Tracks Pole Corral, 7000'; in snow, Nov. 1969. Mostly 4-6000'. / John phoned around to locate Yoakey (old timer) & Wolf (see back prev. page). / Very hot today. We pushed on to Shasta Lake, thence up La Moine Rd. to Little Slate Creek to camp.

records

To Shasta Co.

24 July 1974. The creek running fast + clear. Drove up to La Moine mill site 3300'. Went about 2 mi. on Budweiser Gap trail - but too rocky + hard for tracks, + fallen rocks on road. Back to main road + tracked (spotty) from car to Sanford Pass. Even there, ground still hard - spotty tracking - tho scraping had left fair berm at edges road. / Drove + tracked S. to Damnation Pass - walked a mile down La Moine trail among large Doug. firs + white firs, looking for scratches. Some green ponderosa pine cones; prob. from recent chickaree work. A motorcycle had used the trail. Occ. on D. Pass road, occas. deer tracks. / Tracked on to Toll House area, checking side roads too afoot. There a few acre meadow, old houses. Drove out

car - 3

car 4
walk 2 (pt)

car 2

Journal

24 July 1974 Shasta Co.

4 w d road to S. about 2 miles; fair for tracking - to jct. Sugarloaf LO + Bohd Mtn. rds. (first forest). Tracks deer, dogs, quail. Narrow road. DF + mixed conifers. Returned to Tollhouse. Descended Dog Cr. rd. tracking. Spotty only. At 3600', small creek where we took Dicamptodon before. Eric found about 5 in short order, including very large one w. only tiny gills. We kept none. Continued on down Dog Creek road. In another streamlet (Chase Gulch), Eric found 2 4" Dicamptodon. We saw a Lemmiscus griseus in Q chrysolepis area on road. Back to main highway. Too hot for efficiency. | Drove S. to nr. Red Bluff, then to Lake Almanor area. To Lassen Co.; Plumas Co. CGIT.

25 July 1974. I drove to Susanville. Visited F.S. ranger sta. (Eagle Lake dist.) + talked w. Jerry Dieter + another man. J.D. said he had seen a puma in 1973, about 2 mi SW of Harvey Mtn. (T 33 N. R. 8E. S. 14). He thought same E. of Eagle Lake. He had heard of one killed (prob. not reported) NW of Eagle Lake in 1973. In general, pumas very scarce. The Assistant Forester out. | Then I visited Phil Smith, wildlife man at Lassen N.F. headquarters. He had not any list or tabulation of lion records. He had been here only 13 months. From Arizona. Had heard suggestion of introducing pumas to control wild horse herd in this region. Smith thought possibly pumas in Hat Creek Rim area or in the NE. | I returned to Chester and talked w. "Dusty" Rhodes (Gary Davis, resource man, out.) Rhodes said a few years ago there were 2 cubs kept at fish hatchery near (S of) Payne Creek, taken nr. there. In about June '74 he saw snow tracks puma at about 5600' nr. Carter Meadow, about 3 mi NNE of Humboldt Pk. (Pacific Trail area). He personally saw puma about 2pm in summer '73 at Digger Pine Flat in SE part forest (T 25 N R 2 E S. 7). | From causeway E. of Chester, I saw several western grebes, cormorants, many canada (?) geese, gulls. Rhodes said that they recently topped many snags to serve as osprey nests. He thought one bald eagle

Journal

25 July 1974. N. Plumas Co. , Calif.

on Lake Almanor area. / I spent remainder of day exploring roads to W. of Chester.

26 July 1974. Explored roads near Butt Valley Reservoir. Then went E. to Greenville. / Deer tracks & sightings frequent on N. & W. sides of Lake Almanor, right to edge water. Tame deer around campgrounds. Mtn. Quail - I saw a tame pair w. ½ grown brood at start Shimer Flat rd. nr Canyon Dam. / I went to Ranger Sta. in Greenville. Wildl. man (Jerry) out. Girl said her father saw one on road to Antelope Lake a few yrs. ago. One man said he had been tracking in Mason (Mtn?) & had found coyote, pig, but no puma tracks. / I drove to Quincy. Ranger Sta. said no one there knew anything pumas. Wildlife man at forest hdqtrs., Stuart R. McCormick, 18 yrs. in area, said he saw one E. of Frenchman Lake, Sec. 15, about 1957 summer. Tracks near Meadow View Sta., about 8 mi. N. Frenchman Lake, nr. Black Mtn. Dixie Mtn. area - perhaps good as rough; cliffs & caves. Heard report from NE Clover Valley. Thinks some in Middle Fork area. Prob. most in SW part of forest where rough, hunting pressure low. Thought 20-25 in whole Plumas Forest. / Inasmuch as no 2 reports in same area, but widely scattered, nos. pumas low and perhaps animals transient. / Eric & I fished in bouldery Butt Creek just above inlet to Butt Valley Res. - he took 14" rainbow, I took 10" (w. small eggs) - one cast, discarded about 5 5-6" rainbows. His fish had about 50, ½ cm white "worms" clinging to sides & some in gills, but solid heavy trout & meat good. / We then drove to area Westwood, then N. a few miles toward hwy. 44 + camped in flat small P. ponderosa area where cattle grazing. Heard coyote howls in night.

27 July 1974. Sat. Drove on to hwy. 44, thence NW to area Subway Caves. Stopped for brief survey, then on to Burney, W. to nr. Montgomery Cr. & took Fenders Ferry road to N. 9 mi to Pit R. bridge, a dull muddy green arm of lake. On way, D. fir, black & live oaks, some mixed conifers. Dead gray squirrel. Lake 1050'. Hot. Road dirt but hard & gravelly - occas. trackable spots.

Low Pass rd. -01

1.5 mi. S. bridge

.9 " Chirpch C.G.

SquawC. Bridge to Curl Ridge Rd. - 5.1 mi.

Journal

27 July 1974. Saturday. Shasta Co.

w-1 Spot checked for tracks. Then on to Madrone C.G. in D. fishing Squaw Creek, about 10' wide & clear, 1500'. Deer tracks. Then on about 5 mi. to Squaw Creek fire station, where talked w. Sandy Sandberg of USFS. He said one reported seen 3 times in last few years near small waterfall near Nosoni Cr. (T35N R3W SE Sec 3). Recommended Curl Ridge Jeep Trail for possible tracks. Had heard one seen nr. Hirz Mtn. LO recently (74?). Said former hunter was (F&G?) Frances Keeler, now in Igo (sp?) area w. of Redding. Had hunted w. him nr. French Gulch. Another former hunter, private, came from Orange, where lived NE of Anaheim Stadium. Sandy thought lion sign all over this area, especially to N. toward McCloud. / We went to Low Pass Cr., 1½ mi. to S. Road up had

w-2 been blocked by felled oak. Walked up. Fine mix of wet NW vegetation: Hazelnuts, blackcaps, Holodiscus, snowberry, maidenhair ferns. Hit limestone outcrops, blue gray strata w. many cavities. Occas. coyote droppings, possibly 1 puma scratch in dried oak leaves. Walked 45 min up road; mostly rocky but dust area

w-2 occas. Deer, bobcat, coyote tracks (no bear or puma). Saw many green cones eaten by gray squirrels, including of digger pines. Camped nearby. Squaw Cr. slow flowing, long deep pools, few trout, very clear.

28 July 1974. Sunday. I walked ½ mile S. on road; spotty for tracking. We drove to Squaw Cr. Sta. & again talked w. Sandberg. Then drove about 5 mi. → W. to Curl Ridge jeep trail. We walked up this 3/4 hr. Trail followed ridge mostly, & good tracking spot every 100-200 yds. Mostly too hard & rocky.

w-2 Deer season traffic may soften it up. Coyote, bobcat, deer tracks — occas. a set of each. A few coyote (?) droppings. One possible puma scratch. Saw gray squirrel, and freshly eaten large green cones of yellow digger pines. Hot day, calm. Good trail for walking or cycle survey of sev'l miles. / Returned to road & continued on about 3 miles to Nosoni Cr. area, where small waterfall by yew tree at S. side road on curve, area puma reports. Found no tracks; road hard & partly

Journal

28 July 1974

graveled. Green dogwood & scattered D.F. draw. Place, 2 mi. before Chattersdown

w-1 Rd. to N., dirt road. Soon crossed Nosoni cr., 1100'; & on 5 mi. to McCloud

R. bridge, 1050'. River-lake muddy green, many boats. Then road paved.

12 miles to W., road N. up Hirz Mtn. to LO (Shasta Boys Camp rd.). We

c-2 drove up 1 mile; fair dust. Hot high sun. | Returned to main road &

continued, on fine 2-lane blacktop, to interstate #5. | We drove N to

Gibson Rd.; start of dirt road to Highland Lake (puma report last

yr.). 2.4 mi. up, last house. Then road rocky & difficult. 1.2

mi. on, edge large conifers, 3000'. We continued up; occas. very

bad sections road, barely passable. At 5240', atop ridge s. of

Shotgun Cr., w. good views N. & S. Occas. tracking spots, no puma sign &

little of deer. Sugar pines, red firs. But rocky roads, & about 10 miles up

c-0 road washed out nr. Sardine Spr. Tried various branches; all had wash-

w-1 outs & boulders. Poor tracking on roads; deer but no puma sign (upper

Slate Cr. drainage). Some green wet meadows. | We returned down

mountain & camped.

29 July 1974. Monday. We drove to Ranger Sta. at Mt. Shasta. Talked

w. Bob Bonkosky. Ranger Anderson in hospital. Recent puma sightings: 3-1-

74, Snowman Hill, on highway to McCloud. Mears Ridge, 6-5-74, by

Allred. Pollard Flat, 7-6-73. Little Slate Cr. (Sec. 5) 1973. Extensive road

damage last winter and only few main roads passable to trucks.

I tried to encourage continued obs. + reporting. "Doc" Allred out today. |

We drove up to Castle Lake, now paved all the way. Saw chickaree eating

cone in Lodgepole Pine tree. Visited the UC Davis ecology lab & talked

w. 2 students. They said they had seen chickarees often near lake, had

heard cones dropping. They had heard of no puma reports in area.

| We investigated Cantara road to Sacramento R., below Shasta

C Koford

Journal (puma)

29 July 1974. Nr. Mt. Shasta, Shasta Co.

City. Good flow of clear cool water, sometimes 50' wide, & several fisher-men. (We took 9 rainbows, one 16", 6-8 p.m.). Visited fish hatchery. Drove to Castle Creek area and camped. Creek much washed into broad bed of small boulders. Logging truck traffic heavy.

30 July 1974. Another hot day. We abandoned plans for Highland Lakes area. Drove up Dog Creek road to 2600; 7 mi. from highway.

c ✓ Took 3 Dicamptodon from small stream among mossy rocks, where Erik had seen 10± in 1/2 hr. several days ago. But today scarce, perhaps because early and cool. I took a salamander (Plethodon?) in rotten oak (?) log on slope about 20' from stream, probably

salam. spec. NW Sec. 36, 2 mi. ~~SW~~ SE of Damnation Peak, ~~20~~ 2500; Shasta Co. / We drove back to ~~Berkeley~~ Berkeley arriving 4 p.m.

2 August 1974. To Sonoma-Mendocino Cos., Calif.

With Ralf, departed Berkeley about noon and drove via Petaluma to Stewarts Point on coast, then E. on Skaggs Springs road, northern Sonoma Co., to view terrain + vegetation in coast range N. of SF Bay. Near coast, dark redwood forest w. Doug. Fir, a creek by road. 4 mi. up, at 1100; a Rancheria. Found DF cone cores, probably left by Sciurus or Tamiasciurus. Descended to stream. Annapolis rd. N. near Iron bridge. Mendocino Fire Sta. YMCA camp; along stream bed, oaks, bay, madrone, DF, w. occasional openings. Up to about 2000; where a few houses. Down through oaks, grassland, on steep slopes. Seemed too inhabited for good puma country, tho possibly some on E. side of range. / Continued via ~~Skaggs~~ Warm Springs to Cloverdale, then took Ft. Bragg road. Valley w. oaks, grassland, second growth DF-redwood forest. Sheep in valley. Fenced & well populated w. ranches. About 20 miles out, branch W.

Journal

2 August 1974. S. Mendocino Co., Calif.

toward Anchor Bay. Roadside forested, cutted heavily. Maillard Frst Reserve (state). Drove on to ~~no.~~ Clyod Philo & took Elk Cr. road, where a State Park attendant said both Sciurus & Tamiasciurus present, but few of latter (below 1000' elev.). Redwood country mainly, but one rancher said enough deer for hunting success.

3 Aug. 1974. Saturday. Opening of deer season. At 600', nr. Elk Cr. St. Park, saw (Rolf) and heard a Tamiasciurus in DF-madrone on roadside slopes. Much dark redwoods on down to coast. Visited Mendoc. Biol Sta. at Albion - professors gone, but biology student showed us around. No reports ~~from~~ puma, but Hemphill would know better. Student said that Tamiasciurus had been introduced at Mountain View; seen in at least 3 places in ~~town~~. / Continued to Ft. Bragg and took road toward Willits. DF-redwood forest, fairly continuous cover, & on slopes to N & S in distance. At 900', Rolf found a few DF cone cores of squirrels (some fresh) (~~last year's~~?). Some DF's had 100+ green cones in tops. Road up to 1800'. Much in Jackson State Forest. Second growth conifers continued to about 6 miles from Willits. / Phoned Howard Twining, former MVZ man, then went to visit him on his ranch S. of Talmage. Mainly in blue oak area of foothills, adjoining Cow Mtn. public hunting area to E. With Twining, we drove up to Camp 4 where a group of local deer hunters, including Mac McMahon, houndsman, about 70 yrs. old. He hunted mostly bob cats w. dogs, but had hunted pumas. He thought perhaps 5 in all Cow Mountain region. Among puma localities where said to be or tracks seen: low gaps on Pine Ridge, Robertson Cr.; later. Reports → Mann (sp?) Ranch and rocky hill. Ridgewood Ranch (2 from Andy's bar, on way to Willits). Tracks, saw lion, near Mendocino Rodeo

C Koford

Journal

3 Aug. 1974. S. Mendocino Co., Calif.

(= Black Rock) in Willow Cr. area. Betw. Covelo and highway. Cow Mtn. - couple last yr. (reported?) - middle ridge. / He recommended especially Clint Hensley of Upper Lake, who had worked on trails for USFS., and Doc Wasson of Lakeport, hunter. Jerry Drury of Covelo, and Bud Bauman (co. employee? Laytonville?) had treed some pumas. Garland Ford, Willits, has hounds - hunts area of Skunk Line (on E. side hills). / Twining ranch - 3700 A. - 2000' - 600'. In 10+ yrs., one kill found, one seen, and tracks seen 4-5X. Apparently pumas present occasionally. / Mac said much trapping bobcats last year; pelts to $50. / Cobb Mtn. - probably some pumas. Mt. Sanhedrin - sure to be some, said Mac. / Twining said many Mtn. Quail in area.

4 Aug. 1974. Sunday. Drove via Potter Valley to Soda Cr. R.S. (Lake Pillsbury), then took road toward Hull Mtn. First 5 mi., some fair tracking but spotty, ~~area~~ Cabbage Patch, 3300'.
c - 3 Uphill, ~~road again~~ (Boardman R.) fair many places but too much traffic
c - 2
w - 1 today (deer season, opening weekend). / Hull Mtn. LO a very modern hexagonal type. LO reported a puma ~~seen~~ reported seen on 2 recent occasions near Tar Flats. Much logging on Mt. Sanhedrin, of
[illegible]: which fine view to W. Also good views into game refuge area
X 1 mt. sanh.
2 shelter-snow mt. to SE. Drove N. on ridge - gravelled, but trackable spots. Spruce Grove area - about 2 mi or more good tracking roads. / On to Bald Mtn. jct., SE to Tar Flat - mixed conifer, grassy openings, slopes; not seem good route for pumas. On to near Bloody Rock (could walk over: to Anderson R. or Brushy Camp Ridge trail). Turned back to Low Gap.
c 1 mi.
w 1 Kneecap Ridge rte. closed for repairs, so took Bear Wallow road up. Ponderosa p., SP, DF - many SP cones some trees. Camped.

Journal

5 [4 struck] Aug. 1974. Mon. S. Mendocino Co., Calif.

Lightning + light sprinkle night. Drove N. to Mendocino Pass, down to nr. Covelo, then N toward Zenia on fair dirt road. Thru grazing lands, walnuts. Road 336. DF, PP, mang. Found cones green PP, eaten by Sciurus? Miles at about 3000'. Ocean. grasslands. DF mostly. Black oak, madrone. Crossed N. Fk. Eel R., about 100'. Trinity Co. line, 1700'. Valley oaks, DF, meadows. "Nave of the alone" ranch. Lake Mtn. area (20 mi. to Zenia). Slow road. DF, oaks, madrones - second growth conifers along ridge later. Eel R. + N. Fk., about 3300' - steep slopes. Then more grasslands, w. DF areas. Kettenpom store, start of pavement. Continued broken DF zone. Nr. Hoaglin - Zenia school, 3 P.P. w. 30± fresh cone cores below + piles scales, some branch tips - by Sciurus? / Took branch toward Ruth, paved. 3200'. DF, black + canyon oak, madrone. Saw Mtn. Quail at 3500'. Branch toward N., to Van D. river - dense 2 nd. gr. DF. More ranches, PP, manzanita. Hit highway 36 at 2500'. Mostly DF; few grassy areas; black oaks. Drove to Forest Glen. / Searched for salamanders near mouth Rattlesnake Cr. (2400'), nr. suspension foot bridge, + took 2 Aneides flavipunctatus in rotten wood, 100' from creek. Continued drive eastward. P.P. increased east of summit, about 3300'. Crossed Shasta Co. line. Ranger Sta. before Platina. Then digger pines, blue oaks (1900'). Descended thru chaparral. / We drove on thru Chico and camped near Butte Creek.

Ch-2 [margin]

spec. salam. [margin]

6 [5 struck] Aug. 1974. Tues. Heard Bubo in cottonwoods in early morning, at least 2. Drove S. past Oroville, Marysville, + E. on (20) to Nevada City. Turn-off to N. before Smartsville to UC Sierra Field Sta., in low foothills about 300' elev. Blue oak, digger pine, rocky soil. / Before Grass Valley, 1800'; live oaks, digger pine, some PP. / At USFS, Nev. City, wildl. man (Dave Connell) out, + silviculturist (no info) as well. Drove out (20), looking

Journal

6 Aug. 1974. W. Nevada Co. Calif.

at cone crop. 3900'; cones PP, SP, or of chickaree work. Fairly continuous forest by road. Continued to Yuba Gap - many squirrel cone cores + scales, fresh, under PPs (large) in mixed forest. Drove on to Placerville, and to USFS Forest Genetics lab, where talked w. Clay Johnson + others about conifer seed production & squirrels. They claimed to have heavy damage to their cone crops from Sciurus. Put about 3' of metal around some trunks to keep squirrels out of trees. Had trapped many squirrels + sent them to park in Sacramento (cracked walnut bait, steel mesh box traps). Still a pest. We looked at planted pine area, saw some cones. They said no chickarees here. Poor knowledge of field conditions in cone crop this year. They suggested the nursery, a few mi. away. We went there but all gone for the day (quit at 3:30). Seeds (cones) sent in from good trees from various areas state; here removed, x-rayed for viability, planted and raised to seedlings, returned to area origin for planting. / We drove up to Silver Falls near Kyburz. 4700'. Took rainbows 6-10", a brown trout 11"; in difficult access section of stream. Camped.

7 Aug. 1974. Returned to Placerville nursery & talked with USFS man, here several years. He said report good PP cone crop in Happy Camp area (Siskiyou Co.). Doug Miller (see) Ralf got various cone & seed info. (Johnson had suggested 2 experimental areas on Inyo N.F. Heavy Jeffrey pine cone crop reported from Indian area.). We drove to Pollock Pines (Placerville) R.S. Ranger Scalley C. Parker, 15 yrs. there, said puma rare; one reported nr. Pacheco Saddle Pass. another nr. Grizzly Flat. Scalley had seen glimpsed one once on Groveland District of Stanislaus NF. Dick Allread also questioned, said last yr report at Gr. Fl. (same as ?). / Saw chickaree on paved road nr. Pacific R.S.

C. Koford [redacted]

Journal

7 Aug. 1974. Placerville, Calif.

To Placerville & N.F. headquarters. Bud Veiis, silviculturist, out, and also Warren Kelly, wildlife biologist. / We drove back to Berkeley.

14 Aug. 1974. Wed. Departed Berkeley about 3 p.m. To Fresno Co. and drove via Los Banos to Shaver Lake & Rolland Flat, about 255 mi.

Sierra NF, Fresno Co., Calif.

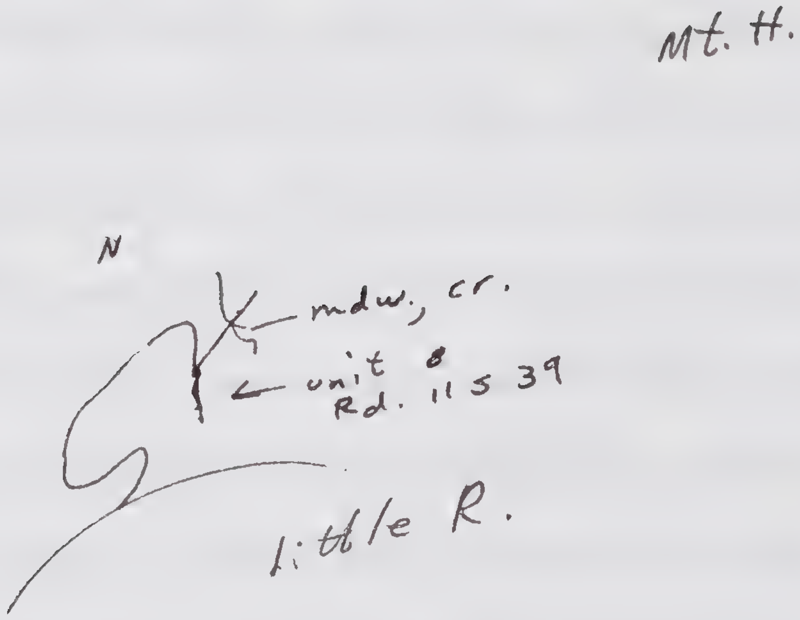
15 Aug. 1974. Thurs. Started down road Dinkey Cr. to Nutmeg Saddle.
Cattle on road. Dead chickaree on road under conifers. Deer + coyote
tracks. Tracking spotty, occas. fair. Good tracking from Fence Mdw.
c. 2 ow — turnoff for 1.7 mi. (no puma). Then gravel, poor to fair, to Nutmeg
Saddle. Walked 1/4 mile W. on side road — deer & coyote & bobcat tr.,
about 1 set each. Took road toward Ross Crossing, about 15 mph. Tracks
of large dog. Below Oak Fl. jct., road too hard - poor tracking. / Went .8
mi. S. of Ross Cr. bridge & walked NE on old log road (4wd). Walked 1
hr., to about 5500'. Tracking good to fair - rare deer, no puma.
w. 4 (1st [illegible]) — Dead Crotalus on trail. Many people tracks. Returning, at 5100' saw
& heard goshawk, prob. juv. Whistling call ?? and chuck-chuck-
chuck (alarm?) call. / Back to Nutmeg Saddle, then to FM look-
c-3.5 ow — out, where Mr. Fink, whom I had talked with before. He said that about 2
weeks ago (Aug. 1±) he saw a puma on road to LO, from LO
right ow. — with binocs., and it looked black. Appeared full grown. / Under
p.p. at edge road, 2 places, 30± fresh cone cores - chickaree.
He said a friend, who lives near Pine Ridge (Delilah LO), said he had
seen 2 pumas on ridge (S. end?) recently. / Returned to Dinkey
Creek sta. To meet Bill Shearer, resource officer. Forestry foreman & [illegible]
Nirsko (? had reported puma track, + photoed it, on Mtn. Rest. → Rush Cr.
road, 5 central Jan. 24. Ben Flanagan, FS packer, reported track on Big Cr.-
Nutmeg S. cutoff, at first switchback, boggy spot. Also at Gnat Meadow, near
Crane Valley. Stableman, Bob Marshall - he said a few years ago saw

Journal

15 Aug. 1974 S. Sierra NF, Fresno Co., Calif.

a puma near foot of Grand Bluffs, when working tractor there. Mrs. Mendenhall runs cattle in area (lives trailer camp nr. sawmill). Walter Watkins, USFS, said tracks reported in area of Hoffman hole, nr. Mt. Hoffman, in grant block 8, on road 11S39, about 7500'. Another man said Tom —, of Shaver hardware, Shaver L., said saw one about 4000' on new (Sandy Bluffs?) rd. to Shaver Lake. / This is about same season as many reports last year — because better dust for tracking?

16 15 Aug. 1974. We departed Pollard Flat, drove E., & took road S. toward Fence Mdw. Cattle tracks numerous. Dead Tamiasciurus on road. Occas. set deer & coyote tracks, but tracking spotty, 2.4 mi. Also second on dusty 1.7 mi. below Last Mdw. (where F&G men had found small puma track recently). Below Nutmeg Spr., road harder but spots for track. Walked 1/4 mi. on rd. E. from Nutmeg Saddle — tracks bobcat, deer, coyote, one set each, no puma. Car to Oak Flat jct., Rose Crossing — mostly too hard for tracks. / Went .8 mi. beyond & took 4 w.d. rd. toward Deer Creek. Walked slowly up for 1 hr., to 5500', where divided into old logging spurs. Tracking spotty. Dead rattlesnake on road, & many human foot-prints. At 5100', a goshawk in red fir & PP, whistling call and chuck-chuck calls, prob. juvenal as tannish; browncly barred strongly, tail tip white. / Then to Fence Mdw. LO, where talked w. Mr. Fink, whom I had met twice before. He had my puma poster posted. He said that about 1 August he saw a puma on road to LO, with binocs from LO, in late eve.; appeared black, Fink said. I found no tracks on LO road. / Under big P pine, about 30 fresh cone cores (Tamiasciurus). / Fink had heard of 2 pumas being seen nr. Delilah ridge, probably area of Mt. Sampson, recently. / We went to Dinkey Cr. & talked w. Bill Shawnay, USFS — he had sent me letter telling of possible puma


Mt. H.
N
mdw. cr.
unit
Rd. 11 S 39
Little R.

Journal

~~16~~ 15 Aug. 1974. Thurs. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.
[probably was of large dog]
tracks about 4 mi. E. of Mtn. Rest Sta., in dust nr. road jct. Ben Flanagan,
reports — packer, reported track on road 1/2 mi. SE of Big Cr. camp, 11 Aug., and
at Gnat Mdw., 2 mi. WSW of Tehipite Dome, 10 ~~Aug~~ July. Talked w.
Bob Marshall, equipment operator; he said he saw a puma twice below
Grand Bluffs a few yrs. ago.

~~17~~ 16 Aug. 1974. Fri. Went to Dinkey Cr. sta. for wilderness permit
for trip to Crown Valley area. Checked 2 sideroads later, Bear Cr. &
McKinley Grove for tracks (found one, a yr. ago). Clear calm day.
On to Sugar Pine Hill area, Crown Valley trailhead, 6500'. Departed
on foot for Spanish Lake. Much foot, horse, cattle tracks on trail.
f-5 — About 2 hrs. to Statum Mdw., 7900'. Some 4 w.d. roads w. good tracking
dust nr. Spanish Lake, among pines & firs. Green cones P. monticola
eaten by Tamiasciurus there, 8400'. Saw 2 ravens. Took 2, 7" rain-
bow trout from lake. / Yesterday, Walter Watkins told us of apparent
puma track in unit 8 of Hoffman Sale, road 11S39, SW of
Mt. Hoffman (logging road up from Little Rancheria rd., about 1 mi. from
end). / Mostly red fir, lodgepole p. Lake warmish, grassy edges.

~~18~~ 17 Aug. 1974. Sat. Calm, clear, not fr cold. Departed on hiked
by trail to slopes of Spanish Mtn., over 9000'; then to lower Geraldine
Lake (rising brook trout). Took Deer Brush trail down ~~Rodgers~~ Rogers Cr.
Passed Fir Dome (where aircraft & Stewart once found lion kill). Saw chickaree
calling at 7800'. Crossed Rogers Cr., S. of Crown V., at noon, nr. Dry Mdw.
Sugar pine at 7200'. Gnat Mdw. entrance to KKNPk. at 1330, 7400'; in
red fir zone. Long monotonous sidehill. Final descent into Tehipite
Valley on steep switchback trail, about 7200' top to 4300' bottom. Took
1 1/4 hrs. at fairly fast pace. Down to black oak at 6300'. Then bay,
maple, live oak, yucca & alder in valley. Bottom mostly mixed

Journal

~~18~~ 17 Aug. 1974 — Middle Fk. Kings R., Fresno Co., Calif. (third?)

conifers, w. Jeffrey (?) pine, some w. many squirrel cone caches below. River fast, clear, rock bottom - 50-100' wide. Rainbow trout fishing excellent; took 10 to 11" in about 1 hr. on flies. ~~At~~ Group of 6 fishermen
12 mi. only other people present. Night calm, clear, warmish. Day "buggy" except on banks river.

Tehipite Valley

~~19~~ 18 Aug. 1974. Sunday. No sounds or visits animals at night. Few deer tracks in valley - occas. single set. Found no trail going downstream toward Little Tehipite. Walked upstream on trail; good sandy tracking. Rare carnivore droppings. 100± cone caches under some Jeffrey (?) pines. ~~At~~ Abundant black oak acorns on ground. Sue saw a gray squirrel. I saw bear track near stream; Sue found bear droppings upstream toward Blue Canyon. I saw 2 *Crotalus* in morning sun at base of granite boulders by stream. Occas. deer track. No overt coyote or wildcat sign. 1/2 cirro stratus, light breeze. Above Silver Spray creek, most water white + rushing; rainbows to 9". Sue walked upstream to below Blue Canyon falls. No puma sign. But beautiful water, rocks. / Returned to
w-7 main trail + ascended to rim on W. About 3 hours at slow pace to climb 2000 ft. Bear tracks on trail. ~~Aot~~ Met a group of about 15 boy scouts, camped, heading for T. Valley. Camped along trail at 7400'. Clear, calm, no frost.

~~20~~ 19 Aug. 1974. Mon. Departed + hiked W. on slope of red fir. Saw 2 chickarees on one Jeffrey trunk. Occas. 2 PP or JP. 1 coyote track set, occas. deer track (season opens 28 Sept.). But mostly good tracking ground. 0900, at Dry Mdw., mostly LPP. Crown Valley has 5 acre green mdw., private, w. about 6 old cabins. Talked w. a Mr. Johnson, who said he had been coming to area for 40 yrs. -

Bill Cook - FCO - Trimmer

puma ? (fisherman)

Journal

26 Aug. 1974. Crown Valley, Sierra N.F., Calif.
(Heavy set, about 50, glasses)
one of arriving family. Said no pumas, tho occas. one drifted up from
brushy area on Kings River side. Knew of no wolverines or tracks. |
Visited USFS patrolman "Marty" at C.V. sta. Packed in this region many yrs. Said
Dave van Bronat reported track near Blackcap Mtn. recently (??). M. Said once saw
one on Dinkey Mtn. (Fence Mdw. area). Knew of no pumas in Crown Valley
area. Formerly worked nr. Mono Hot Springs (nr. Lake Edison) and said
pumas rare there too. About 35 yrs., friendly, talkative man. | We hiked
w-8 on to w. nr. Cow Mdw., we saw a tannish goshawk in conifers
giving chuck-chuck call; juv.? Then on dusty trail, partly a
4 w.d. road, to 3 Springs & trailhead, arriving about 3 p.m. | About
14 mi. minimum to Tehipite Valley & can be done in one day. | We
drove back to Pollard Flat and talked w. Ron Bertram. He gave me
cast cast of small track puma from dusty road nr. (S. of) Lost Mdw., 18? 19 Aug. -
same animal as previously. Friend of Bertram reported seeing 2 pumas
at Coyote Pass (E. of Mt. Sampson) recently.

27 August 1974. Tues. We went on roads to check reports of tracks.
On dusty 1.7 mi. stretch S. of Lost Mdw., a fresh set tracks (.6 before
Bear Mdw. rd.) on soft dust of road at bend, where water stood alongside
rd. & Mt. Quail heard. Same track as Bertram cast on 8-18? 19. Pad
1,2 widths: F 50, H 45. Toe: F 76 - H 66. Stride 17, 18". Tracks for 100' along
dry cast road, tho probably some car traffic already. Rgr. Joe Ragsdale & fire
patrolman Al Jones drove thru while we were casting tracks. Toe
c-4 widths: 70, 75. | Spotty but fair tracking on to Nutmeg Saddle. Went
on to FO rd. & up 1½ mi. - no puma tr. (fair surface). Returned to N. Saddle. |
c-3 Went W. toward Big Creek on cutoff. Good tracking surface. Nr. crossing of
Nutmeg Cr., puma track - continued 100 yds. to E., past a freshly dead
rattlesnake (smelly, but puma track showed no interest). Stride

Journal

2° Aug. 1974. SW of Dinkey Cr., Sierra N.F., Calif.

25" lead 9" but variable. Track wove slowly L + R across road

KX 4 bed. 1/8" dust mostly, too shallow for good cast. 4400'. Measurements:

93-63 90 toe-60 pad, 92-63, 83-61, 90-63, 87-60, 86-63 — 63, 60, 63,

KX-5 - area found. [cast was poor] -61, 63, 62; pad (drawing) wide, squarish. Made one cast. Photo tracks.

One set deer tr. mixed w. puma at X. Found rock + dust spattered w.

sticky stuff under bush (not scrape), as if sprayed by puma (= ? - no smell)

| Found no puma tracks in Flanagan report area. | Drove from Big Cr.

c-5 to top Banner Mtn. (3.7 mi.) — thin dust, fair in spots. No puma

w-1 sign. Down to Rush Cr. jct. Then new gravel, Rush Cr. + Mtn. Rest roads.

at saddle. 4 mi. W. of Soapgrass S., many coyote tracks (no puma). |

(improbable puma)

Continued on to junction in Sec. 24, where track reported - deep soft dust, +

tracks huge dog there; I did not find box put over track, but locality

unlikely for puma (photos by Carmen Johnson looked like dog). | Drove on

to Pine Ridge on dusty narrow dirt road w. many private houses in

woods. | Returned to Pollard Flat.

2? Aug. 1974. Wed. Packed up + drove via Madera & Los Banos

to Berkeley, Calif., arriving early afternoon.

Mon. To Stanislaus N.F., Calif.

26 Aug. 1974. Morning w. Sny Lewis, at MVZ, re condors + oil

development on Rehart area n. Hopper Mtn., Ventura Co. | Departed

Berkeley 3 p.m. + drove via Oakdale + Sonora to Summit R.S. +

camped in mixed conifer forest.

27 Aug. 1974. Tues. Secured primitive area permit at R.S., then drove

and 2 marmots

over Sonora Pass. Near summit saw Belding ground squirrels, 9600'.

KX 7 H Em ig. At Summit R.S., guard said had heard of no reports pumas in 2 yrs there.

Parked near Leavitt Lake, 9700'. Departed w. pack 1:20. 40 min. to top first

ridge + locked gate. 2½ hrs. to highest point, 10700'. Then down to High

Emigrant Lake, 9700'. Water down about 8' from top of dam. Saw a few

Journal

27 Aug. 1974. Emigrant Basin, Stanislaus N.F.

trout rise but managed to take none (some 12" in previous yrs.). Snow patches at 9000' level & above. Saw one prairie falcon flying low over meadows nr. High Emigrant Lake, & a redtailed hawk. / We had seen several cone-cores of Jeffrey (?) pine near Clark Fork of Stanislaus R., in mixed conifers. Erik saw one chickaree in small pine (WB or LP) near Leavitt Lake. / Good tracking ground on trail; no puma or bobcat, but occasional 1-2 deer tracks sets or coyote. Camped on W. Grizzly Pk. lake & took 31 cm. rainbow on spinner at dusk. Heard horned owl, echoing at night over lake. Heard falcon call from cliff in evening as redtailed hawk soared by. Clear, calm eve.

28 Aug. 1974. Departed W. Grizzly Pk Lake 0845 and hiked overland to W., thru meadows, ceanothus, past water pools, to Blackbird Lakes. Saw 3/4 marmots on rocks on way. Then took trail past Maxwell Lake & steep trail up to Black Bear Lake, which had peninsula & island, open conifers including P. monticola. Erik quickly took an 11" long rainbow trout. I hiked 1½ mi. to Upper Twin Lake, where no campers, more trees than at Black Bear & shallower on NE shore side. Deer tracks, no bear or puma. Erik took 31 cm. rainbow about 5 pm. Apparently low nos. trout in BB lake. Camped.

29 August, 1974. Hiked to Bigelow Lake, where several people camped. Many small trout, perhaps all age classes. Continued on NE thru Grizzly Mdw. to Leavitt Mdw. Drove on over Sonora Pass & W. to Clark Fork, about 20' wide but heavily fished. Camped. Chickaree eaten Jeffrey(?) cone cores.

30 Aug. 1974. Fished an hour in Clark Fork; saw only small trout. Drove on down road W. to Beardsley Road, which descended toward Beardsley Lake. Took turnoff toward head of lake, then unpaved dirt road NE along SE side of canyon. Thru mixed conifers, ~~b~~ about 5000'. About 4 mi. on this road, perhaps at Mill Creek, a trail led down steep

Journal

30 Aug. 1974. Stanislaus River, Tuolumne Co., Calif.

slope to bottom of canyon. We hiked down, about 800' drop, 20 min. to river. Thru live oaks, bay, madrone. River high & milky but flowing moderately. In 1 hr, Erik & I took 2 browns + 1 rainbow, all

c-3 about 10". Huge granite boulders strewed streambed, + cliffs alongside, so ~~two~~ travel difficult in bottom. Returned to dirt road. This road good for tracking - tracks deer, coyote, 1 porcupine - but we did not search it well. At least 8 miles available along slope for tracking. | Drove back to Berkeley, arriving 6 p.m.

~~4~~ Sept. 1974. Wed. Departed Berkeley 1130 to Sierra Nat. For. and drove via Los Banos and Madera to Pollard Flat near Dinkey Creek, 225 mi. | F&G man gave me two casts of tracks puma found at Hall Mdw. on 28 August, made by G. Ashcraft. One measured 80-49, other 87-59, both showed

rept. medially in unusual form. | Also report from Charlie Sells via F&G of track near Ritchie Mine, S. toward Bear Creek. 3 1/4" across toes, 2 1/8 across heel pad, 3 1/8" long; also 28 August. | Another report (from ?) of small puma, 2 ft., near first Dinkey Lake on 27 July (trail crewman ?). [doubtful]

5 Sept. 1974. Drove to Last Mdw. area and slowly drove, & inspected

c-2 afoot, 2 mi. of road 10S69, where tracks puma found on previous trip. 0730 at site. But no puma tracks found; fresh bobcat scat, also coyote, deer, apparent dog. | Returned to Dinkey Creek & got puma reports from station. One (shared report ?) said tracks

all doubtful on foot trail on SW side of ridge coming from first Dinkey Lake, 29 August. Another said cat tracks vicinity Crown Valley Pack Sta. Another said 1 large 1 small cat track on Woodchuck Trail later. intersection trail sec. 27 + 25. | Phoned Mariposa R.S., + found Bill Stewart not due until 12 Sept. | Drove toward Wishon.

Journal

5 Sept. 1974 S. Sierra Nat. For., Calif.

On foot, inspected usual 3 side trails in secs. 27, 26, & 2, the last for 1/2 mile (coyote, deer tracks; sugar pine cones cut & squirrel eaten). / On to Courtright road & up it to Shorthair Creek. Some logging along way, & stakes out for additional timber sale. Walked to top of Hall Mtn. & along
. - 2 ridge about a mile. Much sandy ground. coyote & deer tracks, gopher
J. - 5 mounds, squirrel diggings, but no puma sign. Returned to road. / Sampled other roads in area. Finally took dirt road from Tule Mdw. to N. for 4 1/2 miles, to point north of Abbot Mdw. (too late in day for good tracking). Many unmapped dirt roads here. here & main Wishon Rd. — returned there, having
dog c - 4 w - 5 found no puma sign, & returned to Pollard Flat.

6 Sept. 1974. Fri. Departed 0800. Toward Mutiny Saddle. Slow on Lost Mdw. dirt section, 1.7 mi., but no puma tracks. Fair spotty tracking to Mutiny Saddle, 6.6 from Dinkey Cr. road. / Slowly across Big Creek cutoff for 2 mi. — no puma sign, but deer, raccoon, Cattle, 1 snake, 0 coyotes. Returned to Fence Mdw. Rd. & descended to S, occas. slowing or stopping to track. Fair in spots. Took Balch Camp turnoff. 4.1 mi. to top Fence Mdw. Ridge (3670'). Periodic stops. Then descended. Cattle
mine & hull site on road. Much rough, rocky, poor for tracks. Balch Camp bridge 9.5 from [illegible] R. — no puma sign. Then 3 1/2 mi. to Kings R. bridge, 3 mi. to Mill Flat Cr., & started up it slowly, w. frequent stops. Hot & buggy today. Spotty but fair
. .5 tracking — traffic earlier probably spoiled sign. Goat Saddle, 3700', about 9 mi. from Kings R. Delilah L.O. rd. (10?) mi. farther. Tracks reported near jct., but did not search today. To McKenzie station, but personnel gone. I went on 2 mi. to McKenzie ridge turnoff & took same. Fine gravel & hard dirt 1.4 mi. (road w. there), then softer. .2 mi, another branch to W. On McK ridge, 1.8 mi. from Millwood Rd., flat or big boulder — spur to N. here. I went on .7 mi. farther, where road narrowed & descended to W., & parked. Walked down slope 1/4 mile & found puma

7 Sept. 1974

tracks, perhaps 2 days old (rare traffic), in 1/4" dust. Measured: 90 toes 58 pad, 90± 62,

Journal

7 Sept. 1974 N. Sequoia N.F., Tulare Co., Calif

88 - 59 (hind; 4½" lead). 82 - 57 (hind). Into saddle — black oaks, PP, SP, IC.

...cks
11 125 str
60 "
(ad, 60 pad).

about 100' below. some trees, rather open. / Possibly other set about 2' lateral, same size. / Cast track, using spray & plaster. No sign on 100 yds. of road, then found again. pad 62 (middle lobe 20 wide). On 10% downslope, track 84-52); pads 66, 58; 87-57 (ft.?). Continued on about 200 m, then another saddle. Pads 52, 66. / Small bear track on road. McKenzie is first high conifer ridge coming up foothills from W. - similar elevation? Sharp track on thin dust 82-52. Lost track when road turned back about 160° to L; road track stayed atop ridge (whatever Delilah). / In all, the tracks over about ½ mi. of road. Lot pads: 58, 67. Photoed pair tracks. / Flushed about 15 mtn. (?) quail at edge firebreak, all large, all foraging 5600-5700'. Returned to car, 0930. Calm, hot, buggy. No traffic yet (Saturday). Headed S. on McK. From the boulder flat, took N. again for ½ mi. afoot - slight slope, fairly hard. But after 10 min. found puma tracks in dust. Pad 51-57 wide (n=6). Toe width 35 - usually too poor. Doubtless same cat. Tracks deer, coyote, small bear. / Heard Sciurus in black oak area / Back to road. Saw Sciurus on cedar trunk, jerking bare tail up. / Many squirrel-eaten cones under some ponderosa pines - which kind squirrels? Explored 2 side roads short distance; dog tracks. / Continued on to Millwood Rd. & headed E. at ½ mi., puma tracks in dust of berm on inside (woods side) of curve. Photoed. Pads 60. Toes 99, 93. Lead 2½". Stride 19". another, 87-56. 3500'. Thick second growth mixed conifer area. Road oiled or blacktop in sections, narrow. Black oak and cedar. 1.2 mi. from McK. rd., again puma tracks on outside of curve (fast side; high bank on other); pads 57, 62. Thick mixed conifers. .1 mi. on, again, outer side curve. .1 mi. on, short road to campground on L. Tracks puma on road, partly obscured by tire dust. (Millwood was .3 mi. on). Some tracks in camp area, 100 yds. from main road. Measurements: 82-53, -57, -37, -66.

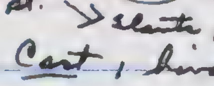
Margin notes: Tracks; 10 Delilah ridge.; 11 - 2 tr. 5% sl. Lead. pds 52-65; -3; -5; 12 - tracks; 13 - berm area

Journal

7 Sept. 1974. N. Sequoia N.F.

Center bulge 20 wide; even sides + =. Presumably same cat. / Took road just
C-5 before Millwood Cr. for 1/2 mi. - too hard for good tracks. Drove ~~steadily~~ slowly toward
Cherry Gap. 3.6 mi. to Abbott Cr. - searched from car much but no puma
— sign - coyote, deer, cattle tracks. /

Cherry Gap area, N Sequoia N.F.

8 Sept. 1974. Sun. Departed Fox Canyon (6700'); sign 5 mi. to Cabin Cr. grove.
About 1/2 mile .5mi on way, descending deep dust slope through dark mixed conifers, found
puma track ascending (10% slope) in middle of road. (No earlier cars today.) Measured
tracks, cast 3, photoed. Pad widths: 65, 57 (front, hind). Hind 97 long. 1/2" loose dust.
hind 82-57. Walking S. Hind 84-57. Forefoot broad, & lateral lobe heel larger &
extending back -  st. > elastic posterior, both sides. Hind tracks tips lateral leg lobes point-
ed Cast 1, hind; + (#2) one hind & 1 front of set. Tried 4 strobe shots in
4KX - red 60 / red f. " / f. " red — 35 mm. Dark white fir-inc. cedar forest. Track gently meandered back & forth on
soft dust of road, sometimes 4" deep. Also coyote tracks. / .7 mi. out, corral and mdw.
on E. 2.4 mi out, past cutting camp (Indians). 3.1 mi, Rd. Ray branch to E. 3.3 mi.,
Stump Mdw. - there I found more fresh tracks same cat coming from N, again on deep
dusty road. Took more photos. Cast one R. forefoot. Forefoot wider than long; hindfoot
longer than wider. Outer toe forefoot wide spread, giving large toe width. At foot of
83-56 h / 100-71 f — slope, tracks angled off 30° among old redwood stumps, passing w/i 1 ft. of base one.
87-57 h / 100-66 f — Pace fairly constant 23", but lead 0 to 10". At 11", almost even spacing of tracks
in line, a few inches offset. RH 86-56, RF 103-67, in 1/4" dust, 5% downslope.
...ond — Many mtn. quail tracks too. About 6000'/ Tracks puma continued to top of
...d KII / ...dust tr., deep / Tr. B. tr. jct. — grade, at b/w fence. At one point tracks left road & took shortcut uphill across
switchback, about 200 yds. Again, left road for 30 meters & returned.
Hind 83 wide but 95 long! Front 103 w. x 90 long! Some old tracks, same size,
heading N. About 30 m. N. of b/w fence, lost fresh S-heading tracks. But found
older N-heading set. These followed road toward Cabin Cr. grove, but cut
across a switchback, 100 m. thru open short brush. I continued (& tracks)

Journal (puma)

8 Sept. 1974. N. Sequoia N.F.

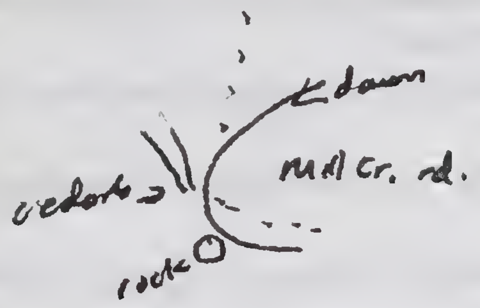
to boulder opposite first big redwood at E. Then I returned to Stump Mdw. (where
c-4 car, as could not make grade in dust). | About 1 mi. back to fort camp, 3½ to
w-2 Four Corners. | Then I took road toward Verplank Ridge. Fine gravel & hard
dirt, wider & more traffic, but spots on sides fair. Many cattle tracks & animals.
at 1 mi., took W. (Verplank) fork. Manzanita, small planted pines in old burn,
chokecherry thickets, much dozed brush to clear. Fair tracking at roadsides.
c-8 (o.w.) Deer & coyote tracks. About 4 miles to cattle guard & then open stand
p pine (with SP, IC) on NW slope, 6200'. 2½ miles on, road divided down &
up, 5600'. I went up, poorer road, fairly open slopes. Up about 1.5 mi. to 6000',
then too steep & rough (joins Hoist R. road?). Back to jct. Lower road probably
descends Verpl. ridge to N. No puma tracks, but perhaps morning traffic obscured some. Road fair at best for tracks. | At junction, 6700', took Hoist
Ridge road to N. Thru white fir & old redwood stumps, green meadows. About
.8 mi, then descended thru pines, firs. Good dust. Fork at 2.2 mi, 6400'. W. one
to b/w fence in .2 mi. 6300', and on, getting rougher (ok for walk?). Took other fork
on foot; descended to streamlet & wet meadow, ½ mi. Then b/w fence & 4 w.d.
Good tracking. Cattle. So Hoist branch seemed better than Verpl. for survey. | I
returned upslope & to Grant Grove for gas. Hot day. Clear, calm night.

9 Sept. 1974. Monday. Drove to McKenzie Sta. – left note for Lee & Karen.
.4 Then to Kings R. branch, dirt road. 1.4 to Delilah jct. Head W. .8 to cattle guard
at lowest point, 4500' (LO 4 mi.). Visited the adj. small ranch (LA organization);
owner said heard of no pumas. Said caretaker Brant of Bob Mathias
camp, ½ mile N, had mentioned bobcat sighting. Said Horten (sp?) bros.
of Dunlap (nr. Klingham jct.) ran cattle in area & may know if pumas
C 3 reported. ~~Bobcat tracks~~ I put up puma poster. Then went up Delilah LO
road to LO – spring jct., about 2.2 mi. From lowest pt., .7 to
Mt. S. ~~Bobcat~~ Camp. .5 mi. on, cattleguard – area of brush, grass,

5

Rolihah Lo

→



Hooten - Texaco sta jct., R, 1st hse.

Rds

Rocky. Cross. → Dairy Rd 10.6 mi.

B.C. road -	Rush Cr jct	4.8
	Big C bridge	5.0
	FS camp gate	6.2
	Cattlegd.	6.7
	Big Cr. jct	7.7
	Cattlegd.	10.1
	start Nutm. cutoff	.4
	edge old burn	12.6
	Nutm. Saddle.	14.6
	Sh.L. - Dairy road	21.2

Journal

9 Sept. 1974 Nr. Mt. Sampson, N. Sequoia N.F., Calif.

pines. Good tracking on sides of dirt road. Cattle & coyote tracks. Fork
c 5 at 5000' - either road (Mill Cr. Fl. rd.) might be good tracking (3½ mi. to D. Spring). / Returned
f 1 to Kings R. road & started down to N, tracking. Edge tracking good, but some
earlier traffic. 1.3 mi, spur road to E, looked good. .2 mi. on, dusty turn
slope L. (two adj. cedars close to outside apex), & puma tracks in dust, partly
dusted over. Heading upslope - then took cross-country rough trail up
track slope. Up 10% slope, about 20" stride. pad 57 (center lobe 22), lateral
lobes slightly pointed (hind, prob.). Another pad 64. another 54, length
KIII4 KX4 → track 95. Another 56 p, L 94L; p 56, L 92 (photo). Front prints poor, or
lighter & somet. hind steps, but apparently ⌣ shape like the Caverns
Basin one! Also quail, hound, & deer tracks. 4200'. Faint tracks
.2 mi farther on - made Sat. nite? Also fresh black bear track,
105 mm across hindpad. / Met USFS fireman (= Villamar) from camp 4½ ~~Equip.~~
(Seq. N.F.). Showed him tracks. He said that 7 Sept. he saw track, appar-
ently puma (I showed picture), at end of 1 mi. "Dead End Spur" to W. on
this road. Also he said that about May, former guard at 4½ said he
rept. saw two adults & young puma near Mill Cr. Flat. I tracked from
car, w. occas. stops, down to Goat Saddle, 5 mi. from top, 3700'.
Oaks & chapparal there (prob. = Sampson Saddle of Dixon & Bruce). Lower
road after too rocky - spotty tracking. (Badger Crossing about 17 mi. from
crest.). Up Dinkey Creek. - fine gravel, poor tracking exc. occas. edge.
Up Big Cr. road - better tr., edges. Tracked Nutmeg S. cutoff, but too
much traffic today - good substrate. Same in Lost Meadow section.
Continued to Pollard Flat.

10 Sept. 1974. Tues. Returned to Berkeley.

Journal (puma)

13 Sept. 1974. Fri. To N. Humboldt Co. Calif.

Departed Berkeley 10 a.m. and drove via Eureka to Orleans, Humboldt Co. Between ~~[illegible]~~ Laytonville & Willits I saw a circling group of 20± turkey vultures; many smaller groups along Redwood Highway. In Orleans area, hundreds of steelhead fishermen were camped.

14 Sept. 1974. Sat. Saw osprey over Klamath R. in early morning. Went to Somes Bar, Siskiyou Co, & talked w. USFS old-timer, Steve Mullcon. He said logging & reduction forests had reduced puma numbers, but still present. Recently he saw tracks on "GO" road at end, in Elk Valley (W. of Klamath R.). / Drove up to Offield Mtn. L.O., 4114 ft., & talked w. current lookout, Carla Kaford. She said that previous L.O. this yr. (Sue Lake) had reported seeing puma near L.O. bldg. Another report of fawn killed by puma on S. side Dillon Mtn, to N. Cats had caught 2 shrews near L.O. (had been discarded). Region mainly Douglas fir on steep slopes, but also tan

2. oak, canyon live oak, chinquapin, madrone, bl. l. maple. Irregular clear ed areas, now brushy, of 1/2-1 sq. mi., scattered on hills. / Drove NE toward Haypress Trail trailhead. Road (15N17) paved, then large gravel, so spotty edge tracking. But branches (as 12N08) had good dust. I walked 1/4 mile and back on 3/4 of these. Tracks of black bear, deer, dog or coyote. Same at Offield Saddle. About 8 mi. from Off. Saddle to Haypress trailhead.

-2.0 Last 1.2 mi. on fair dust road (car tracked). / At trailhead, dusty, 4400'. 6 cars parked. Trail good dust, thru forest & fairly level - good for tracking.

-.1 Went 1/4 mi. only. / At trailhead found puma track, cub. Photo'd pair, 68±-

I 6/2 tracks 45±p (hind), 75±t - 55 p. (front) - Another one 75-52. In 4" dust, heading down 10% slope on edge road. Many human & dog tracks at site. / Returned to Salmon River area to camp. Clear warm day. Camped on Salmon R.

15 Sept. 1974. Sunday. Skunk in area at night; I threw shoe at it; it gave usual reaction - phew! Two ducks flew high overhead. Saw g. b.

Journal

15 Sept. 1974. Sun. Klamath R. area

Lemon over river last eve. / Drove up K. river hwy. toward Happy Camp. K. river rather fast & muddy, but many fishermen. Took Blue Cr. road to W., but closed. Took Pony Pk. rd. for 1½ mi. - rocky, + poor tracking. On to Happy Camp, small lumbering town. Phoned Cox, game warden - out until Tues. Visited USFS office & talked w. 2 secretaries about pumas (called panthers here).

C-3 W-1 ~~Ab~~ One told me of seeing track on trail NW of Seiad Valley, sec. 3, a few yrs. ago. another track reported Three Biscuits Saddle, about 6 mi. ESE of Happy Camp. One young seen June 1, '74, 3½ mi. up Elk C. road, SE of H.C. Other secy told of one killed on road S. of Seiad Valley, about 1962(?); quills porcupine in mouth. Sitton had tried Thompson Ridge / We took Slater Butte rd. from hwy. 96. 1st. 2 mi. paved. Then gravelled w. dusty spots, fair at sides. Tracks dogs, bear, deer at 2600'. Then cutover lands, few conifers. 5 mi. to Shinar Saddle. N. Slater branch, spurs to E. - deer & coyote tr. about 8 mi. from hwy, 5 pt. jct. 4050'. Took fork to N. toward Tanner Lakes, 12 mi. Patches forest (white & D. fir). Road 30' wide, recent roadwork & machinery. Fair tracking only, for about 3 mi. Equipment parked on rd. Many deer tracks on road. About 4 mi. out, 100' forest both sides, tracks deer, coyote, bear. 5.4 mi. out, 4800' dusty saddle,

½ red f. 4 strides first puma tracks on side road. Perhaps 1 day old. Photoed. Toes fairly pointed.

? f 8 man. str. 905-62. 1.5' Front corners helped shape . Level; ¼" dust; tr. head S. Center lobe 20 mm. wide; lateral slightly pointed. Measurements: 90±-62, 86-61. | .3 mi. on, better

♂ + ♀ prob. tracks: 65±-50 hind, 78-50± (feeding ♀ ->) | 90±-67, large. Large & small superposed at x, as if ad. + juv. (♀ or cub: 77-57, 70-49) (♂ ♀) also fresh large bobcat track, pad 34 wide. Going up 10% slope, ⅛" deep dust. Small: 73±-53± (little toe spread out to side); 77-66 front; 70±-49, rear. Large hind, 85-55±. Veg.: mixed

KII.8 5 m - 2 rocks 60-67 p. IC, Wh. F, some brush, shady. Also tracks bear, deer, bobcat. After .9 mi. of tracks, still adult track (only); now on brushy sidehill - hazelnut, salmonberry, thimbleberry. / Saw 3 grouse on road; 2 appar. grouse juvs.; white tips tail feathers. Saw porcupine tracks. / Big tracks continued, heading S. 90-65 front.

Journal

15 Sept. 1974.   N. Klamath Nat. For., Siskiyou Co.

One area, stride 40"; lead 4" (hindfoot 1" medial); another 42" + 6". Often posterior edge pad slanted backward (w) lateral. Older set, opposite side road, headed N., 38" stride. hind 82-53, 105 long, up 10% sl. / front 87-62. ; hind 77-56, 100 long. F 93 long, hind 99 (= larger, but narrower). Again, front 90 long, hindfoot track 100 long, upslope. 2.2 mi. after tracks started, fresh one heading N., prominent. All apparently same cat. / Measured: H 82-57, 100 long;
c-10 F 85-65, 95 long. 10" stride, 6" lead. Lateral offset 2½"; 4"; or 0, variable. Another 82-57, 93 long. / Continued thru area manzanita, ganya, chokecherry, thistle, & scattered young alders. Patches forest for ½ mi, then brush again. Many cattle tracks. 10.2 mi. from 5 pt. jct, entered Oregon (+ Siskiyou Nat. F.). Road improved (harder), more cutting trees. 1.7 mi. to trail down to Tanner Lake. .6 mi. farther, clear cut area (fresh) + hit better E-W dirt road; heard cattle bells. Still puma tracks on road (the large one), so tracks continued for at least 7 miles! Turned back S. about 1½ mi to "boundary trail" sign + camped. Warm eve at 5800'!

16 Sept. 1974. No nocturnal visitors. 100 yds. to N, over edge ridge, we saw Tanner Lake about 800' below (blue; logs around edges; road ¼ mile to N. of lake). Same puma tracks on this main trail. Zone of Mtn. hemlock, red fir, white fir. We headed back S. to Slater Butte. Found no new puma tracks on road. Grouse tracks 3½" long, stride 7". / Puma track set 100-65, 90-57; 87-68 (one); 90-65;
II 9-7 N, up Ld. Cnyn. 1 mi. from Ore. bdy. — 90-? front. / Found fresh deer + bobcat tracks. Saw one bobcat on road. Men working on last 3 mi of road. / Road to Slater Butte poor tracking, too
10 N → T. Ridge. — hard; spots only. Lookout & had no local info on puma. / Slowly drove
11 W → Baldy Preston
12 S → K.R. — back to hwy. 96. Tracks deer, dogs, bear in dust at sides. / Just N. of Happy Camp, at Standard Sta. of McIntyre + sons, talked w. the Constable (= McIntyre?). Had cattle ranch on Grider Ridge, 15 mi distant, 3500'. No depredations pumas, tho saw them + tracks occasionally. Formerly

Journal (puma)

16 Sept. 1974 Happy Camp, Siskiyou Co.

many more. A part[?] Indian hunter (whitcher ?) killed many in area, later. Reid + Horse (Camp ?). Mc J. said cubs seen at China Creek, more than one year recently. Deer numbers low, compared to old days. Formerly many porcupines in area his ranch; now few. Said Ray Bowers and Eugene Sharpe are main hound hunters & know "panthers." He thought lynx & bobcat both present here. Seemed helpful contact; voluble w. stories deer & cats. / Visited ranger sta. + talked w. John Kanis. He told of seeing pumas or sign, one kill (3 pt. buck), at in several areas E. of Klamath R., such as road 15 N02, 15 N10. Said formerly reported from Pony Pk., when a lookout there (a puma crossing on road near LO). I solicited records of new occurrences. He seemed helpful. Left posters with Kanis. / Hot today, & calm. We drove back S. to Somes Bar area. / Talked w. Steve Mulloer, USFS. Said wife saw puma walk across pipe over ditch near house (a few yrs. ago). Said that Ida Lake, former Offield LO, saw one near there earlier this yr., + previous yr. adult + kitten in tree nearby. Said several sightings on road nr. Ukonom LO, including this yr., at a saddle. also several around Kennedy (Homestead ?). / Fly-fished in Salmon R. & took 15" steelhead. Drove up to Offield LO.

17 Sept. 1974. Tues. Drove up road passed Camp 3 to road 12 N08, good loose sand, & tracked along it for 4.3 mi. to end, 3700'. About 80% trackable & no traffic. Bear (incl. small cub) tracks, many deer & coyote, bobcat.
c-4.3
c-1
Returned to main road. / Out opposite rd. - 48, for 2 mi. - harder, more gravel, logged hills; coyote & bear tracks, but poor. / Returned to Salmon R. area. Again talked w. Steve Mulloer. They said had two families of ring-tailed cats in the attic there, about 1 mi. up Salmon R. / We drove up Salmon R. to Forks of Salmon. Talked w. & clerk + 2 men at USFS sta. Report of lion seen near Cecilville, and nr. Grand Bluffs (on S. river). Thought few in area. Also talked with USFS

Journal

17 Sept. 1974 Tues. Siskiyou Co.

man from Sawyer's Bar. Said occas. tracks or kill seen, but nothing specific. We drove up Salmon Mtn. road, parked, walked to Salmon Summit, 6000'. On road, lower 8 miles too graveled, only occas. spots trackable. Upper 6 mi. better,
w-1 c-3 fair at sides road. Tracks deer, bear; few coyote. Walking, poor for tracks; bear tracks. Camped. Heard horned owl.

18 Sept. 1974. Again hiked 1/2 mile up to Salmon Summit, then about 1/2 mile
c-6 w-2 each N. & S. Red fir, white fir, chinkapin. Rocky; forest broken by brushy openings. Much bear sign & saw black bear (one). Heard grouse fly. No puma tracks. Occas. coyote (?) droppings. / Drove dn. to Forks of Salmon, tracking side of road (only 1 other car today). No puma sign. / In store, Mrs. Dave George said a puma reported at Nordheimer Flat recently. I went 4 mi. toward Cecilville to sawmill & found Dave George, about 30 yrs. old. (He said never had hounds; ~~letter~~ letter listed him as houndsman.) He said Nordheimer report was from Les (?) Brown [later I visited him.], who saw adult & kitten at close range recently. Brown said Nils Mc Brown best informant. Another man said he had seen two (about a yr. old) on road nr. Blue Ridge ranch once. Mc Brown had chased some in Taylor Creek area. Provided little info but said (both) opposed to killing pumas. Said trouble w. houndsmen hunting bears, sometimes leaving dogs behind. / We drove on up Salmon R. toward Cecilville. Hot day. / USFS man (nr. Fks. S.) suggested Jack Hurr, Sawyers B., as informant. Also Nils Bennett at Cecilville. / Continued on up Salmon River, clear water, often in deep cliffy canyon.

19 Sept. 1974. Went to Cecilville, mainly a resort of Nils (sp.?) Bennett. Bennett had long experience area. Had worked for USFS. 70± yrs. Friendly. Showed photos of his dog & puma taken 12± yrs. ago. Report of puma nr. Cecilville once. Bennett suggested looking for puma sign on roads near Cecil Pt. L.O., & near China Creek (6 mi SE C'ville), on Fish Cr. trail (nearly always tracks, he said), on roads to Eddy Gulch LO (drove there

Journal

18 Sept. 1974. SW Siskiyou Co., Calif.

in winter). He also thought Salmon Mtn. rd. good possibility. He thought depredations of puma on livestock rare. Little specific information. We continued on to near Trail Cr. camp.

19 Sept. 1974. We drove up road toward Fish Lake. Only spots good for tracking. Road washed out at creek. Hiked trail to lake (a meadow). Tracking fair, but no puma tracks. Many cattle in area. / Returned to hwy. & continued

c-1
w-2

on NE, over saddle & down to Callahan. Thence toward Trinity Center & took road w. to Castella on dirt road. Recent repairs. Tracking spotty;

[illegible]

spot checks mostly. At The Bolstad, 4677', pine & fir about 60' tall. At Ramshorn Summit, deer & bear tracks. Area red fir, p. pine, brush. Desc. to Mumbo Cr., 3800'. Then up E. & took Highland Lakes rd., 12 mi. from highway 3. Tracked slowly in car. About 30% trackable. / 7 mi.

c-8
c-1

to Highland Summit, 5800', on Trinity - Sacramento R. divide. 60% brush, largely manzanita. Red firs. Good tracking area but no puma sign, much

w-2

deer & black bear tracks. 13 mi. to Hwy. 44. Road on for 1 mi. to crest above Highland Lake, site old mine tailings, 6000'. Lake about 500' below to N.; walked to it & back. No puma tracks. Shallow lake in grassy

[illegible]
[illegible] +5.

shore; no apparent fish. Walked up ridge ½ mi. to E. Took photos. Veg. p. pine, red fir, manzanita, oak shrubs. Rocky - green serpentine in part.

20 Sept. 1974. Descended to Highland Summit (Trinity Co. - Shasta Co. line). Saw a goshawk in firs (also yesterday). Fresh bear & deer tracks. No bobcat or coyote tracks. Took road E. - 90% trackable dust, recent

c-1
1.2

repairs. Went 1.2 mi., then back to summit. No puma sign. / Then drove

1

to near Pond Lily Lake, another shallow one w. grassy banks. Gravelly

5

road. Coyote, bear, & deer tracks. Red fir & brush. Drove slowly back to Trinity E. Fk. road; much 5 mph. To E., slopes well covered w. conifers w. little brush & few tracks. Mostly ponderosa p. on S. slopes.

Bob Brugman (s.o.?)
Fresno, F & G
Stanislaus deer

Journal

20 Sept. 1974. Shasta N.F., Shasta Co.

Prob. much D fir on N slopes. Continued to Whalan Sta. (not manned) and put up puma poster, then NW on road to Mumbo Lakes. Good views to W. Road ascended to 6200'. Open mixed conifers, rocky country (but no reports pumas!). Mumbo Lakes shallow, tho small fish trout visible. Many cattle around it. Road ascended to 6200' before Mumbo L. Beyond, to N, over divide to S. Fk. Sacramento R. Road detours much of way down to NE to Mt. Shasta. Hot day. Shopped. Then drove to Berkeley.

1 October 1974. Departed Berkeley 0430 and drove to Fresno, to attend

Condor — Condor Tech. Committee meeting at Federal Bldg. All day at meeting. Ray Erickson of Patuxent Res. Center attended; told of Andean condor work — 9 procured in 1966; one young produced to date. | Thunder storm & some rain at night. Fresno, Calif.

2 October 1974. attended meeting of Condor Advisory Committee most of day. Also conferred w. men of Argo Petroleum Corp., who want to drill on Hopper Ranch. | After meeting drove via hwy. 168 to Shaver Lake & Pollard Flat. Rec'd note from Gordon Ashcroft, telling

Track — of fresh large track found on Mt. Hoffman rd., nr. Little Rancheria creek, on 22 Sept. 1974. And on 24 Sept., morning, track on

Track. — road up Bear Creek, middle Sec. 23, near crossroads. Cast fore & hindfoot; large. | Talked w. Ron Bertram. They had been looking for puma tracks when working on deer. Deer may start down to lower levels in about 2 weeks, he said. | At meeting, M. Zardus recommended Old Colony rd., about 12 mi. downhill, as place where puma tracks have been seen. No vehicles. Enter from Crystal Cave rd. |

3 October 1974. S. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

Coyote chorus early morning. Saw 1 chickaree at Pollard Flat campsite yesterday, 50 yds. from the nearest tree. Sprinkle of rain last night. | Drove to

Journal (puma)

3 October 1974 S. Sierra N.F., Calif.

Dinkey Cr. & talked w. Gordon Ashcraft, F+G biologist, concerning deer, and local puma tracks. He had heard from hunter, late Sept., of sighting near end of Sugar Pine rd., Little Rancheria Cr. | I searched for tracks reported last month
- 1 at start YMCA camp road, 2 mi. E. of Dinkey Creek. Dust, + about 4 roads joining, but found no tracks. Rain covered most older tracks. | Drove up Hatch Lake road to look for tracks puma near Bear Cr., reported late Sept., in Sec. 23. No results. | Continued on this road to SE. | Talked w. a hunter, Glen – of L.A., who had been hunting high on Nelson Mtn. Many ^deer^ hunters there. ^Glen said:^ Many ^deer^ tracks ~~Monday~~ ^30 Sept.^; ~~Rain~~ ~~Rain~~ rain 1 Oct., few tracks 2 Oct. ~~Doe~~ ^Deer^ season opened 28 Sept. Glen told of finding crippled doe, dead spike buck. | Continued on to SE, but road surface poor for tracking. 6700–6900'; red + white fir. Road branched; took S. branch to Brush Mdw. & Wishon Rd. | Checked spots on Patterson Rd. about 2 mi.; return-
c-1 ed to main rd. | Met USFS man, who recognized me; he said that 28 Sept. met man who said adult + 1 (or 2?) cubs seen on P. Mtn. road (about 1 mi. S. of Tule Mdw.) on 28 Sept. I drove to area, ~~[illegible]~~ about 1/2 mile from L. Vaulty report of tracks in 1973, but found no tracks. Road fine gravel,
c-1 poor tracking. Went 2 mi. up this rd. | Drove on to SE of Wishon dam & took new Mt. Hoffman road up mtn., where much recent logging in red fir, + reported tracks (including G. Ashcraft, late Sept.). 2.3 mi. to branch R.; 1.2 mi.
c-3 to second turn R., which I took. (Last 1/2 mile graveled). Fair tracking on berm; too much vehicle traffic. 2.6 mi. more to end of road, 8700'. (Highest pt. about 8900'). Many down logs; much bulldozing. Occasional green meadows. Talked w. one hunter; he did not know puma illegal game. Found no puma tracks, but worth check when less traffic. | Returned to Pollard Flat.

4 October 1974. Overcast, calm, cool. USFS had reports: puma tracks at Blue Canyon, ^(Tehipite Valley)^ below Kettle Dome on trail, 12 Sept. '74 (P. Ringel, Palos Verdes Est.). Track also reported by Dave ~~van~~ ^Van^ Bussingt ^(sp.?)^, wilderness Ranger, in Blackcap

Journal -(puma inv.)

4 Oct. 1974 S. Sierra Nat. For.

Mtn. snow - on ridge 1/4 mi. above Disappointment Lake (just E of lake, in Red Mtn. basin). Also W. rim of Devil's Punchbowl. (Probably early Sept.). | Drove to Sugar Pine Hill area, checking roadside turnouts en route. Departed from Rancheria Cr. bridge, about 6550', for Garlic Mdw. at 0930. Walked up jeep trail; 1 or 2 earlier cars today, but rain spotted (2 Oct.) ground at sides & center. Good tracking road through red fir w. openings. 1030, on 7900' granite ridge among large red firs. Coyote or dog tracks occasional; deer tracks rare. Saw no hunters until reaching Garlic Mdw. 8300', chickaree in red fir called
W-10
loudly ???, 50 m. distant. 1130, 8600', bear tracks. Still good tracking. Some openings w. shrubs. 1150, edge Garlic Mdw., 8800'. Two hunter camps on spur rd. to S. 1/4 mile. ~~At~~ Some coyote tracks, no deer tracks. Walked on road around W. side mdw. & up slope to saddle leading to Statum Mdw. No puma tracks; fresh bear tracks. Talked w. 2 hunters. Searched where tracks found last fall, near creeklet below a mdw. at 8650'. Then down on rough jeep road to Spanish Lake (2 p.m.). Light snowfall. Continued on trail to Statum Mdw. - more tracked up by horses. Saw 10± deer, including only does & yearlings, near upper Statum Mdw., & many deer tracks on trail. Crossed Statum Creek, on trail down, 1525. Horse & dog tracks in loose trail soil. On back to car. Commenced light rain, which turned to hard hail by time I reached Dinkey Creek. Stayed at Pollard Flat. | In evening, coyote chorus & heard Bubo. | Saw 1 gray squirrel at Pollard Flat, in chickaree area.

5 Oct. 1974. Sat. Clear & calm, but ground wet from yesterday. Much traffic of arriving weekenders. I drove to Berkeley arr. 4 pm.

12 Oct. 1974. Departed Berkeley 1000 and drove to Lewiston, Trinity Co. Federal & state offices holiday prevented visits en route. (Burton had moved to Old Lewiston Rd.) Continued N to Scott Mtn. summit. Saw several deer hunters in area, two reported seeing no bucks, including lge

Journal

12 Oct. 1977. SW Siskiyou Co., Calif.

of Boundary Range. Clear day.

13 Oct. 1977. North side Scott Mtn., mostly yellow pine. Continued to Callahan, then west over Carter Divide. Walked S. on ridge trail 1/2 mile, + other [illegible] no puma. Before Cabell, took S. Fk. road, same. Area of second growth pines + [illegible]. Lane, 10-30' wide clear stream, 3-8 mi. out, [illegible] heavy logging [illegible]. [illegible] by logging. | Took Black Gulch road back to Cabell, about 2 mi. from few tracks. Talked w. hunter from Monterey, with group, have hunted here [illegible] years, had no sign of puma, including Taylor Cr. last yr. | Continued on to Northern Fork, where talked w. Lee Brown, 80 yrs. old + here 30 years. He was anti-puma + anti-bear, but fed raccoons + deer + [illegible]. A year ago a puma killed one of "pet" deer, [illegible] but left [illegible] [illegible]. About a month ago, he was near Hamill (sp?) (rainy day) Cr. when looked back & saw large puma about 30' away. He sat on stump, [illegible] & banged it — cat gone. No sign since. He thinks the puma had taken "pet" raccoons near house. He said pumas mostly drink blood first, [illegible] return to kill. Early experience in [illegible] Valley (E. of Yuba?). (Mine? Mt., [illegible] Hure (?) [illegible]) He and Al (hunter from [illegible]) said local deer very nervous when pumas near. Formerly locals hunted pumas for bounty as means income (no specific example). Said pumas killed goats. Brown said often seen on road to highway (about 1 mile, on Northern Cr.). Said had ringtailed cats at house in past. Brown notified F+G about puma; [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], said could do nothing. | [illegible] to Orleans + [illegible] Orleans (?) L.O. about 6 mi. up 10 mi. road, 2,000 ft. elev., where road near top of steep [illegible] slope to [illegible], a 30 m. long [illegible]

w-[illegible]!
c-3

report seen

Journal

13 Oct. 1974. Tues. Orleans Mtn.

where I found puma tracks. Probably a few days old. Area of D. fir, madrone, but brush & oak. good. Small puma – measured

c-6 70 mm across toes, 50 pad. Another, pad 53. (Area ½ mi. up road from Deer Lick Saddle). Bear & raccoon tracks also present. I

continued on to Orleans LO. LO man, Brayton, said he had seen puma track nearby in late summer last yr, none this yr. Bear tracks nearby, at edge bluffs.

14 Oct. 1974. Wed. Returned down road to track. Found best

10 in fine dust packing flat. Big bear track at head road nr. LO.

K str. #16 sm Photod track. Spot followed favorable intervals on road. Big tracks! Back down to paved rd. Out toward Ukonom Butte. At least 3 yrs

c-1 Hunters camped at Red Cap creek, Went on 1½ mi., but still mostly paved (900'). Branch → Mill Creek, good dust). Returned downhill to Orleans Bar and up highway to Ti Bar, where took road to Kennedy

Homestead, then N on graveled dirt road w. dust wider, where 2 USFS reports puma sign. Dog

c-3 tracks, large. About 1.7 mi., then forked. R. fork continued on 1.6 mi. to

about 2000'. No puma tracks, 1 coyote, many hound. Met bear hunter looking for 3 lost hounds. Returned to paved rd. toward Ukonom LO (5139' 4600'). .9 mi,

Hr. 400' low ↑ small dirt road to N. .2 farther, small dirt rd. S. (bear & hound tracks). 2 mi. from Kennedy H., 2800'; gp. of 11 Mt. Quail at edge rd. Then took dirt road

C-3 w-1 L toward LO. Tracking fair to good. 1.3 mi out, track of small puma on rd., at outer side of roadbed at head of brushy opening to W. Photod.

(K) – 47-70 h 51- f scale Pads 47 hind 51 front; toes front 70. Stride 17". Partial register. Heading E. Douglas fir zone, w. large openings. Other pads measured 46-, 46-

K - area 45-, 47- (mid lobe 18 mm diam.) 48-67. 45-66- | 52- front (mid

1 K - track – w. scale 47-70 54-pad f lobe 1 mm anterior to side lobes. There at 3700' elev., 5 p.m. Tracks unlimited, tho sometimes not evident for 50 m. 46-70. 51-74. Road

Journal — Klamath N.F.

~~15~~ 14 Oct. 1974. SW Siskiyou Co., Calif.

crossed ridge. Tracks on ~~to~~ at least 1.3 mi., same size. Some older
going opposite direction, same path at side rd. Mt. Quail tracks too.
These on sideroad to Ukonom LO, along ridge w. D fir, shrubs. [13N08; ~~4100'~~ 4500']

cast — ~~16~~ 15 Oct. 1974. [Ukonom LO area] No new tracks. Clear again. Cast 2 tracks puma.
Older set heading S, same cat. Tracks continued to saddle S. of LO (1.6 mi from start),
then down old caterpillar track. | I went to LO. Mr. Totan, first yr. here. Also 2 hunters,
LA & Santa Cruz men. They had seen puma about 7 a.m. today on cut over brushy slope
to E. Puma froze for ½ min. + when first seen, then ran downslope to lower road,
about 100 yds. | Totan told me that relative saw puma, small, near small pasture where
I first saw tracks, on Panther Cr. side, right ~~about~~ after July 4. | I went w. hunter to the
lower road, E. of LO, & found the puma tracks. Same small one as on the road
above. It had slowed to walk & gone E. Older tracks of same one went W. on same
road [13N] (good one for tracking). A distinctive feature in forefoot track; center lobe heel
pad a little anterior to lateral lobes, & these slightly pointed; lateral side of heel
notched back. . One deer track, small bear track, same lower road. | Returned
to car on LO road & drove back to paved road, 14N01, and drove E, checking turn-
outs & dusty sides at intervals. Tracks dog, bear, 1 bobcat, many Mt. quail.
Area of D fir, tan oak, maple. Fall ~~color~~ colors of red, yellow. | About 4 mi. on road,
central Sec. 2, found same puma track. Measured: 47-70, 44-67, 53-75 [fr].
On outer edge of curve in hard dirt [bank / down]. 57-, 47-, 44-71, 52-76 [fr.]. This
about 1½ mi. S. of previous tracks. 3700'. About .2 mi. on, more tracks on outside
of curve, downslope side. Also .5 farther on, inside edge curve (downslope side).
Dustiness improving, but paved partly. Tracks again a mile on, [mi.] start of road
13N02 to N02 (goes below LO; Panther Cr. drainage). Also track deer, raccoon, bear. | I went
about .3 mi. up 13N02; good dust, no puma track. So continued E. on 14N01.
½ mile on, track again. Same areas of logged, open, brushy. Again at 3900'; 4100'
Measured 46-70, 85 long; 55-80, 80 long, 50-70 [Fr], 83 long, 47- ; 53-78, 85 L;

Journal

~~16~~ 15 Oct. 1974. sw Klamath N.F., Siskiyou Co.

46-69, 85 long. Better front track here; 1/8" dust. | Passed rd. 13N30 to S. .6 mi. on, same track again, 4400'; heading N. This about 3 1/2 mi. from track below lookout. home range for a few days? ~~at~~ .6 on, track L fork. .5 on, another L fork — this (170° Y) led E. & crossed Cub Creek at 4400'. Most of road too hard, the edges fair to good tracking. Late in day, near 6 p.m., so light poor. Patches of recent logging on this road, which lay a few mi. SE of Ten Bear Mtn. I went about 3 mi. on this branch, then turned back to the 170° Y & took W. fork, where camped in red fir. | Addenda for 13 Oct. FCO at Somes Bar (Day or Kay) told me of former year reports from Dark Canyon on S. side Pony Peak, & 2 cubs near Cuddihy Lake in Marble Mtns.

Day tr. C - a W - 1

10-Bear Mtn. area

~~17~~ 16 Oct. 1974. Fri. about 4500', bandtailed pigeons, 2 flocks 12± over fir trees. Raven calls. Continued S. on road 13N03. Fair tracking. Rose to about 5100', down to 4800'. Crossed small clear creeks. Tracks deer (usually 1), coyote 1, bobcat 1, bear, quail, in red-fir zone in openings. A few cattle tracks. 3.8 mi. from last fork, Sandy Bar Cr. (sign), 5000'. ~~Saw~~ one hunter (no others seen today) in high area). Here road new large gravel, making tracking poor except for occas. edges. | 5.3 mi., over shoulder into new drainage; off field LO to SW. Tracks big bear. Sides road, deer, coyote, raven tracks. 6.5 mi., Haypress Rd. 13N03A to E. — took this; fair to good tracking on dirt rd. 1.3 mi. to Haypress Trailhead (2 cars parked). Found no puma track, but 1 bobcat, coyote, deer. No bear. Walked on old spur toward Haypr. cr., 1/4 mi. — no puma tracks | Returned to main graveled road & went S. At saddle at SW corner Sec. 32, 1/4 A. large turnout to S., & puma track at N. edge road for 5 m, probably going into wooded draw. Photoed & measured. 52-74, 80 long. 44-70, 73 (hind). 54-, 48- (fwd-). 18" stride. 1/2" dust. 4000 ft. 56-74, 82 long. Probably not made today. Mixed conifer area. about 5 mi SSE. of nearest similar track found yesterday. Also tracks bear, porcupine. | Continued on road. 4 mi. to road 15N17 (Somes Bar 22.5 mi.), dusty wide road. .9 to Irving Creek ~~12~~ 1.7 mi., fair tracking, 4300'. 2.8 mi, bobcat tr., good dust road.

Margin notes: date w/ page = 18? ; c-4 ; c-1 1/2 ; w-1/2 ; → N, Preston Peak? UK. LO ; off. & Orl. LO → SW ; 2 tracks dust

Journal

17 Oct. 1974 — Somes Bar area, Siskiyou Co.

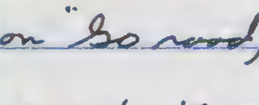
3.1 mi, old spur to R 4400'. 3.6 mi, enter Stanshaw drainage. (This road essentially parallel to gravelled one upslope). Parts rocky, poor for tracks. Bear tracks of small cub, forepad 6.5 mm wide only. 6.2 mi, good dirt road entered at R, 3500' (to 10-Bear area?). Then road descended, rockier, to creek (7.3 mi.),

0 – 9 mi.

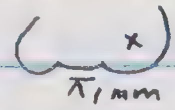
probably Sandy Bar. Took L road to W. (ahead to Ullathorne LO?). Tracking there spotty, at edges. 9.2 mi, Stanshaw drainage edge again & turn ↱ 9.6 mi, dog track on road by creek; heel of one track showed 3 lobes, puma-like, but not other tracks & toes canid (Must be careful in identifying tracks.). More coyote & bear (incl. cub) tracks. 14.4 mi, hit road 96./ Drove to Orleans & talked w. 2 USFS employees. One told of radio report ^today from Thompson Ridge, N of Happy Camp, about 1 mi. out on road, & cat seen. Also said ranger (?) reported track far out on "30 road," near ~~Dutton (sp?)~~ Doctor Rock in Elk Valley.

18 Oct. 1974. Saturday. Deer & bear season weekend. Drove to Independence Bridge & up road E. toward Titus loop. Blacktop, but old road. 3 mi. out, largely gravel w. dusty sides. /3.3 mi. up, 2500', dusty turnout on ridge, (W slope) w recent bulldozer work. Puma tracks in dust. (Clear view W. across Klamath R.) Measured: 55-79 (p t), 93 l (5 mm dust). 57±84 hind. ~~64~~ 66-97 (p t), 93 l, front. Toes moderately pointed. 57-78, 67 – . 47" stride, 12" foot lead. 67-96 (mid pad lobe 4 mm anterior lateral. 58-83, 93 l, hind; 8" lead. 67-97, 92 l F. Also bear & deer tracks. Cat tracks 50+ m into caterpillared soft soil; also apparently onto blacktop road. Headed S. Photoed. Left forefoot pad, medial angular,

R 5.6 med. str. 2 tr. 67, 57, 11" lead (corr. t. better.)

 . Hind ft., rounded lobes. Made 3 casts (1 pr), w. spray. /50 yds.

F16 closer. Stride. rdx. 67, 60 lead 7"

W. in same dust, turnout area, fresh smaller? track, apparently descended over dusty bank to W. Front L, medial lobe largest  ×1 mm. Hind ft., medial lobe pointed. | also tracks a ^bear ~~bear~~ w small cub (59 mm diam. forepad, 62 hind).

KR 4 rt. hd. 67 diam. avail.

Apparently older track 57-83, 87 l, Hind (previous visit?). Photoed track and site (see next page, L margin). | Drove on up road, tracking spots at edges, road-

Journal

18 Oct. 1974. Sat. N. Titus Ridge, SW Klamath N.F.

3100', bobcat tr. 3200', dusty saddle, bear & hound tracks. Unknown 2 O [illegible] to SW, about 5 mi. | 5.1 mi. up, Titus Gap 3200', saddle & road fork. Took N. fk. toward Elk Creek (10 mi.). Good dusty road, about on contour. 1.4 mi, crossed shoulder of ridge, 3400' – bobcat track, bear cub track. 2.4 mi. out, crossed Middle Fork stream, 3300'. 2.7 mi out, 3400' shoulder. 6.2 mi., more tracks puma: deep dust. 57-85, 90 l. 56-73, 90. 57-82, 92. Only 1 mean [illegible]. Then above 10 A ±. brushy slope to W. Probably same as found lower (to check, photos). | Placement laterally of front & rear tracks varies, out, in, on; no help in ID unless extreme or constant. | Bear track, 130 mm wide forepad. 6.4 mi. out, 3400'; jct. of 4 roads & pass (down → Maline & Elk Cr. Large & small puma tracks – same as at lower turnout? (check sites, photos). Big track 59-85, 100 l., pointy toes. 65-93, 90. 12" lead. | small tr. 50-76, 83 ? F. 46-68, 83 H. (The wider front track often = or < hind in length, center of pad to tip toe 2.) Dead end road to W.; smaller went out this one a mile or +, good dust. (dead end, 1+ mi.; Elk Cr., down; spur, blocked w. log; Ti. Gap; SE)

No tracks on road to N., but many of 2 sizes on spur to SE. 69-95, 68-100 F. H 57-82, 60-95. Small H: 47-67, 73. Walked along SE spur, good dust, ± level. Large & small tracks going opposite directions; so not companions? Older tracks smaller too. Covey of Mtn. Quail flushed. Many bear tracks too, & some coyote, human. A regular "puma alley" of tracks. | Spur SE went 200 yds +; no vehicle tracks, blocked by log. I raked across road for 25 yds. & put 2 spots Lysol. Then drove out W. spur & camped – 2 mi. to end, edge replanted logged slopes (DF, IC, oak.). (Saw 2 cars hunters on Titus Ridge today.)

19 Oct. 1974. Sun. Heard 2 grps Mtn. Quail about 0700. Returned to saddle. No tracks at all in raked areas! Photoed tracks, lge & small together, in dust SE spur. Half overcast, cu-stratus. Met 2 cars w. bear hunters, w. hounds out. Hound tracks on nearly all roads. Bandtailed pigeons – flock 20±. | Drove back S. to Titus Gap, passing 3 pickups trucks hunters on way. Noted

Margin notes:
- prev. p. – 52-F, 47-67 H in 10 mm dust
- 2 tr., diag. to R
- 3-, 84 l. 48-69, 82 L
- w. lap tr.
- 75, 46-66, 83. H.d.W.
- turnout site → W.
- 2 tr. w. scale
- Tracks lge + small puma
- KR-55-76, 82 small. 47-68, 78; 3 tr. lead 10" stn. H.d.N in tracks.
- 11 KR – w. tracks bird (quail?)
- T – Elk Cr. Pass
- KR – lge + small tr. avail. lge top.
- KR – rel. stn. – lge + sm. lge bottom.
- KR 12 14 – SE → p. alley.
- C-8, W-1
- KR 12, 13, 14 →

Journal

Titus Gap area

19 October 1974. Sun. SW Klamath N.F.

no more puma tracks, in several spot checks. Took road toward Jacobs Well (8 mi.). Old blacktop, dusty at sides. Many new water bars bull-dozed, making driving slow & rough. Bear hunters in area. Descended to 2700'. Bobcat track. about 2 mi. to Corn Hollow, 2,500'; where clear fast 2 m wide stream. Yew trees, maple, DF in canyon (USFS man mentioned puma sign here). about 1.3 mi. on, 2900', overlook to W., tracks small bear, + .3 mi. farther, where short sideroad W. to wooded ridge, (prob. good tracking rd.) puma track at start spur. H 56-85, 87 l. F 60±-97. F 63-100, 88 (toes widespread). H 57-86, 90 (center lobe 1 mm behind lateral). Other: F 65-87, 86 l. H 57-83±, 88 L.

(also older, smaller; 47 pad-73 toes (poor), + bear, dog. P Ukonom L.O. bring. 230°T. Photoed tracks. Larger appar. went upslope into trees. Wooded ridge to W; spur road a few hundred 200 m. only. / about 6 mi. out, 2400'; Independence Creek, large stream, well wooded. Much road repair. 50' bridge, & just S. of it puma tracks, old & few - H 55-78, 85. [prob. same] 100 m on, tracks descended short spur road. / Road climbed (dusty) to 2900'. 1.4 mi beyond bridge, overlooked brushy slope to W., + on E. edge of road puma tracks, dusted over: 66-97, 95 (larger animal). (Poor tracks) 57-77 Lead 7", stride 30" (also bear, coyote, deer). about a foot lateral to tire line. Photoed trail. a spur road led to ridge to W.; probably good tracking site (on USFS maps). about 100 m. further to crest of ridge & a pass, ± Then on to a crest, parking area, & saddle at trailhead of Jacobs Ladder trail; 3500'. 3.5 mi. beyond Ind. Cr. bridge. Good dust. Roadwork blocked further travel. Small puma track, heading N. from road S. & continuing 300 m. or more. Measurements: H 47-67, 75 l. H 46-68, 75 L. 4 mm dust.

53-70± F. Tracks over tractor tread churned roadbed, fairly straight line. at least L medial & R lat. pad lobes pointy. Mid lobe F about 2 mm anterior. 1" lead, 16" stride. Some register, some lead 10." Medial R lobe rolled back in some. Photoed & cast pairs (3 casts). LH, medial lobe V, LF, a lobe 1 mm. anterior. RH, both lat lobes V. A set of older, apparently larger, heading opposite

KR 15 17 on tr HdR

KR 16 18 same, hdl 57-83, 97 l 66-93, 90 l.

tr. set, dust sided, track.

Journal

19 Oct. 1974. Sun — SW Klamath N.F.

direction. H 53w x 37 long pad, track 93 long > [pad sketch] longish

second set-larger — F pad 62w x 43 l (85 long), poorly defined lobes. Pads: 63-, 51- / Casts without spray, in 5 mm dust. / Drove back. Windy, clear, cool. / 4 pickups w. 9 people were photographing bear skin on truck. Offensive habit. / From J L trail, 1.8 to next pass, 3.2 to Ind. Cr., 7 to Conn. H., 9.3 to Titus Gap. Thence 4.9 to Indys Bridge on Hwy. 96. / Brief stop at turnout where first saw tracks yesterday; tracks still there, no new ones.

20 Oct. 1974 Drove to Ti Bar & W. up to Kennedy Homestead, on paved rd., thence S. on Carter Cr. road (15N 10.1), unpaved but hard for first mile. 1.7 to fork; checked L. fk. to end (1/4 mi.) + R. for 1/2 mile. Hound, but no puma tracks. Thence back to [illegible] mtn. and off N. on road around w side of U. Mtn. - at first old gravel, sides spotty tracking, many tracks dogs + bear. 1.4 mi. out road, 3200'; track puma, small, 54p-82±, 80l. F [pad sketch] pad. / .5 on, apparent puma scats, 3 old, on turnout. 2 largest 30-37 diam, 90 mm long. Dk. gray. saved. / Also old track 50-76, 70 F, 40-62, 76 H. (Poorly defined.) 4' from droppings (dog track close). / Opposite side of road, large old print: 53-72, 98, lateral heel lobe narrow + pointed. Some smaller cat tracks (30-46, 35±-48, 56), perhaps large bobcat. Another track -63 toes; one 60-85, 80 F. another 43-67, 72. ~~Larger~~ Apparently at least 2 cats, including kitten. / Tracks of small one continued N. on road: 47-67±, 73. 44-70±, 74. On harder ground, very prominent lobes heelpad [sketch] (= juv.?). 3400'. 3 mi. out, above end of Carter Cr. road, 3600'; tracks heading opposite direction, probably older. 47-80± H? 44-66, 76 H → W. 44-61 → E. 40±-63 → W. 41-63, 76 → W, H. 44-65, 76 → E. Same .3 mi. on, where 180° curve left. 46-66 H. (Same as m. L O recently?). Some heading N, some S, + some tracks opposite side of road. Photoed tracks. Turned back to main road.

Margin notes (left):
second set-larger
pr. hd. R., w. slant scale 58-67 46±-69 80l
57-75 47-69 2 hd. R [illegible]
same as [illegible] road area:
to. c → a min
c-2
—
scat
[illegible] lge?
♀ + lge [illegible]?
K, 50 × P
lged old of lge ♂. [illegible] + juv. p44
KBI. avail. f 11, 125
overlap tr. 52p / 46-69, 79.

Journal Dog Cr. rd.

actually 21 Oct.
lost a day = ? → 20 Oct. 1974 Mon. W. Shasta N.F. Calif.

Drove to Somes Bar. Telephoned office Steve Mather in Eureka; on leave.

22 Oct. 1974. Tues. Drove up Salmon River, over Carter Divide, past Coffee Creek & E. of Clair Engle Lake to Dog Creek road (Shasta N.F.). Spot checks & car tracked up this dirt road to Damnation Pass, 4326', 6.3 mi., &

5 C-14
= C-8

down to hwy. 5 (another 12.3 mi.). Descending road poorer for tracks but good around 2000'. First house about 3 mi. before hwy. 5. / Found no indication of puma tracks, few of deer & no sure bear. Poor in tracks compared to Somes Bar area! Drove S. to Berkeley.

29 Oct. 1974. Tues. Departed, p.m. for Fresno. There conferred w. Greg Lewis of Argo Petroleum, & Janet — of Ventura (County, environm. impact report analyst) re drilling for oil on Hopper Mtn. Then drove to Sierra Nat. Forest. /

30 Oct. 1974. Wed. About 6" of fresh (Sunday?) snow, now melting fast, but fair for tracking along roadsides. To Dinkey Creek, where guard station now unmanned. Then on E., watching snow at roadsides for tracks, occas. stopping to check or search further. Fair numbers deer tracks; doubtless migrating downslope. / Drove up Hatch Lake rd. to junction, & took fork to Bear Cr. Barely passable in snow, but some car tracks. Searched 1/4 mile & back on foot. Groups of 3-4 deer track lines crossing road, to at least 6700'. Also

C-5
W-1/2

up Hatch L. road afoot for 1/4 mi. & back. Returned down to Wishon-Dinkey road. Snow melting fast. Continued on about 3 miles & checked start of 2 side roads (where tracks last summer). Found one fresh coyote

C-3

track, squirrel & deer tracks. / (Drove a few mi. on Fence Mdw. rd. (see top next p.)) Returned to Pollard Flat & prepared trailer to move to lower camp area. Overcast & cold. Trapped one chipmunk by snow tracks to fallen log at Summit Camp, 6900'; held alive (is captive). A few deer hunters driving around & camping.

31 Oct. 1974. Light drizzle & all overcast, but not freezing,

Journal

31 Oct. 1974. S. Sierra Nat. For., Fresno Co.

just sloppy. | Yesterday I had checked road to Fence Mdw. down to area of Lost Mdw. + Byles-J. sawmill, + found it too muddy for safe towing. So hauled trailer via Ft. Shaver Lake, Tollhouse, + Trimmer. At ranger sta., found no replacement yet for Shaver (now at North Fork), no additional puma reports. Continuous light rain. Hauled trailer to construction camp, about 6 mi. up Fence Mdw. rd. from Big Creek Bridge.

5 Nov. 1974 Tues. Berkeley, Calif. Elizabeth Bennett, asst. editor of Defenders of Wildlife mag., visited me + ASL to talk about pumas + possibility of an article in their journal.

6 Nov. 1947. Wed. Departed 8 a.m. and drove via Hwy. 101 to King City. Visited ranger sta., but officials at a school in Isolato. Drove then to Jolon. (Saw flock 1000± sheep nr. King City) and visited natural resources mang. Dick McCleary, at Hunter Liggett M.R. He here since 1 July. Had heard no puma reports. Considerable mortality in cattle here. Ground squirrels not poisoned this year, and no varmint hunting allowed. He offered coop. in getting puma reports. From Humboldt State + Univ. Ariz. (MS). | On to Sam McMillan Ranch. S.L.O. Co. Before Bradley, saw another sheep flock, 100±, + another east of Paso Robles. About 500 cattle seen en route. So hardly any indication of condor food shortage. | Sam said had talked to Capt. at Camp Roberts. Said over 10000 sheep there on 37000 acres. Also had talked w. Rudnick, who ran cattle that area + on Hunter Liggett. Both said no depredations by pumas. | Sam again told of Laguna Ranch in San Benito Co. where guided hunts, pigs, jeep roads, but no pumas now. Cde of King City is owner. | He was preparing for legislative adv. comm. meeting on 8 Nov. in Los Angeles. |

8 Nov. 1974. Clear + cool. Rain about 1 wk. ago. I drove to Pozo

Journal

7 Nov. 1974. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

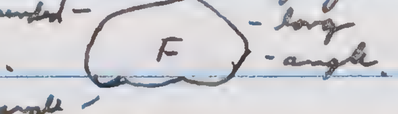
Summit, parked, & walked up firebreak trail to S. ~~Started~~ 0830.
0915, 3200', first puma tracks. adult heading N., fairly fresh,
track — since rain. Measured forefoot: ~~(hindfoot)~~ 69 pad - 75 toes (photo), 65-75, 66-76
(photo). Pointed toes, medial lobe heelpad large, lateral pointed posteriorly.
Trail fairly hard so tracks shallow. Stride about 18": same as
earlier this year? / Heard Sciurus in area small Coulter pines. Tracks
seen occasionally on trail to saddle & Nick Ranch trail junction, about
2 mi. from hwy. Tracks went to SW on ridge. / I walked out
ridge to W., where tracks and scratches last summer. But found
no tracks. Possible old scratch near boulder about 3/4 way to the
W. (40 min) — tripod peak; saw! Geococcyx here; also checked trail from there to S. for 1/4 mi. Then
back to trail jct. & walked SW, toward Pine Spring, on
ridge trail. Ground fairly hard and tracking poor. Passed
old iron gate at 1140 & soon found a few tracks of same cat,
66p - 90 long. also tracks of Ursus. Rare track deer or coyote,
or dropping coyote (or bobcat or fox, or bear). By rotting log,
possible puma scratch w. black flat excreta. 1220, at dip
where scratch found last winter, same marks had been scratched
again, leaving toe marks, in same bed. about 8" long x 4½"
S - 2 3/4 (+ return) — wide, mound 2½" dirt + dried pine needles, 6" wide. I
leveled scrape. Short distance N., groups of small pines & good bed
W - 4 mi. (+ return) — needles, but no scratch there. / I walked back to N. - 35 min.
to Nick R. jct. (=1 mi.). 1h 10m down to car at Pozo Summit. / I
drove to Pozo Guard Sta. - men I knew were absent. So drove
on Black Mtn - Navajo camp road, checking berms & turns for
C-1 — sign. met John Arnold (ranch nr. Pozo); no lion reports. Continued on to McMillan Ranch. Strato-cumulus clouds increased and

Journal

7 Nov. 1974. Thurs. San Luis Obispo Co, Calif.
light rain about 5:30 p.m.

8 Nov. 1974. Fri. Spent most of day talking w. Eben McMillan [n. Cholame] about condors and other matters. One condor seen this yr. on his ranch. He had been out w. Borneman on recent condor baiting & counts; maximum 8 condors seen, w. 2 pairs identified. Goat bait placed only 250 yds from station, downslope. A year or 2 ago, condor counters on Grapevine Pk. reported seeing a puma. Eb told of Whalen turkey ranch on road Atascadero–Morro Bay where pumas said to have fed on discarded dead turkeys, & also on sheep or goats. In all Eb's hunting & travels, he had only once seen a puma. He recounted condor searching trip to Baja Calif. w. Borneman a few years ago. Overcast until mid afternoon, but no rain.

9 Nov 1974. Sat. Clear, cold, windy at I. McMillan ranch. I drove to Avenales Ranch via Navajo Camp. Road surface fairly hard from rains a wk. ago. I drove up to Pilitas microwave sta. Windy & cold, ground hard. Returned to Pilitas Pasture by upper gate, about 3000'; and walked N on the ridge. About 35 min. from road to the loose b/wire gate, where good sandy patch - no puma tracks. So continued on 10 minutes
w-2 c-2 firebreak to softer area. Heard & saw 2 Mt. Quail. Found hard track of pad only - 62 mm pad width, by 53 long. Several yards on, 3 pair tracks - probably made since rain, in rain-washed sand, but fairly poor. One pr. pads 63 F, 54 H (width), so apparently
track Cast smaller than Pine Mtn. track of yesterday. Cast there; 4" load. Another pair: 62 F 53 H (pad w.).



Returned to road & descended. Drove to Kennel Cr. & stopped across. to examine softer areas, but most now too hard. To Branch Mtn. road gate, then back to ranch house. Cliff Hudson told me of finding fresh deer
kill? carcass, large forked horn or 7, in Douglas Canyon near gate to ranch. He kept antlers. Said saw no tracks but many ribs eaten & viscera too, except small intestine. Eaten through but hindparts attached only by isthmus of skin. He had been looking for dead cow in area. Last year, dead doe in field nr. turnoff to Smith house, possibly lion kill, but not covered. Martha said they once saw cubs near the

9 Nov 1974. Sat. Avenales Ranch, San L. Obispo Co.

main gate. Cliff said 6-700 calves now; I saw dozens. Probably less last year. Martha had never seen condor, though out much on ranch. | Drove back via Navajo Rd. Took Frijo camp road by error; dead end; saw gray fox in chaparral.

To Castle Mtn, Monterey Co.

10 Nov. 1974. Again windy, clear. | Yesterday, saw a prairie falcon over slopes near Ian McMillan house. | Drove via Palo Prieto canyon toward Parkfield. On Cholame flat, estimated 3000 cattle (steers) spread over several miles. (Jack Ranch now controlled by Hearst corp.?). About 500 sheep in alfalfa nr Jack R. hdqtrs. Saw one roughlegged hawk, one prairie falcon. | Took Turkey Flat road about 3½ mi, then into Floyd Taylor ranch at foot Castle Mtn. Floyd had been in area all life, since 1902. Knew Steve Mather, who trapped here. More recently, Patterson (of F+G?) had trapped here. Floyd had never seen a puma, tho had heard supposed one, + deer kills said to be of puma. Said sometimes saw tracks in light snow. No livestock depredations. Said Steve M. once set trap for puma, but cat stepped on jaws trap only. | Got permission to use road up mtn. toward microwave relay station. Good dirt road, some of fine shale gravel, but portions fair tracking. Deer tracks common. On a pond, about 38 mallard ducks; then flew off together. Saw groups 1 to 10 does + fawns deer. Floyd had said few deer in deer season; only 5 bucks taken this year. He said had once seen 7 big birds feeding on carcass, years ago, + was told they were Andean condors. None for many years. | 5.2 mi, locked gate. a trail to it about 1/4 mile to highest peak. Road continued to radio station. I walked this road, looking for tracks, for 70 min., to near antenna. always at least 1 deer track; several scats on trail on ridge. 1 bobcat track, occasional coyote (+ often scats). No bear or puma tracks. Rough country - chamise, blue oaks, live oaks, ceanothus, grass,

Journal

10 Nov. 1974 Sun. Castle Mtn., Monterey Co.

shale + sandstone rocks, Coulter & Digger pines, steep slopes, & no cattle now in upper country. Fine views all around of undeveloped country, but thick dark haze in San Joaquin Valley. Saw 1 Golden Eagle soaring above ridge. Upper gate about 3700'; parts of road over 4000'. Should be excellent for pumas & condors. Good site to look for Batrachoseps when wetter, I think. / Walked back to car at gate. Climbed to summit. Sandstone rocks, Digger pines. Many meters of mountain runways torn up (badger?) in spots. Spots of yucca whipplei, juniper. Returned back down slope & to McMillan ranch. SLO Co.

R. - C. mtn → E (Lower) → S (2 pines)

11 Nov. 1974. Talked w. H. Greiman at Santa Maria R.S. by telephone, for news + permission to use certain roads. He said that Randy Long, biologist, now stationed at Ventucopa. New ranger, Bruce Van Zee, to replace Griffin at Santa Maria. More records of puma tracks in Figueroa Mtn., Zaca Ridge, Colson Canyon, Cachuma areas. He said that in deer season this year (August?) near Big Rock on way to Bâlnd Mtn., two hunters told him they had seen puma close by. He went there & found fawn, partly eaten, & dying slashed raccoon close by. Photoed both. (CK box - bookshelf) Tracks large but poor. I can get photos from Greiman. / Saw road F& G reports. Said thought chasing ½ for hours on hot day was potentially harmful; was she pregnant? / He repeated mention of seeing puma tracks on ridge of Ballinger Canyon area (some on way to Quatal Can.), in Deer Park Can. area S. of Cuyama R., a few yrs ago. / Went to San Luis O. to get info from J. Lidberg, F& G., at Los Osos. Also visited Robt. Beauchamp, who had ranch in San Simeon creek rd. to Rocky Butte. He had written letter to editor of local paper last yr. (in response to Frank Rode ltr.) saying no evidence puma in. his ranch. Also R.B. recommended Warren Markle, lower in same canyon, as

kill

Paul Reich - Frazier Pk - act. mgr. - 805 245-3931

Randy Long - Venturapa - 766-2591, 769-8313.

Bruce Van Zee - mgr. Sta. Maria.

Journal

11 Nov. 1974 San Luis Obispo, Calif.

source of info from old timer. - Returned to McMillan Ranch.

12 Nov. 1974. With Carla & Jerry Broyles, to Queen Bee Camp & up road to crest of ridge leading to Pine Springs, 3100'. Walked 3/4 mi. S. - found a few deer & fox tracks, saw baby Phrynosoma, but no tracks puma. Too hard ground for good tracking. Then walked S. on ridge, to overlook of Beartrap Rocks, to jct. to Pine Spr. & to American Canyon. At times, several track sets deer in dried mud. Also tracks one bear. Cirrus clouds 5/10; calm, warm. One apparent old puma scratch in pine needles, 7" wide x 9" long, + mound; rt. ft. 2" ahead of L. / Large crop blue oak acorns. Saw one red-tailed hawk, a few white-throated swifts, flock of band-tailed pigeons, thrasher, flicker, jays. Very dry; rain about 10 days ago. / Returned to Queen Bee camp and D. McM. ranch. Windy evening. Dan had seen Aquila at ranch today. / Newspaper reported puma killed pony nr. Atascadero; hunted down by C. Bergman; 130 lbs. / Today two bands 500± sheep on Canyon Ranch, with lambs, & much alfalfa still uncut - probably more sheep coming.

13 Nov. 1974. At Dan McMillan ranch, nr. Shandon. Don McMillan visited, and Bill & Janet Linfoot from Livermore (vets, Pleasanton and on M3 ranch). Latter recommended Steve Fields of Castro Valley as source info (cattle Arroyo Hondo nr. Calaveras Dam). Also Cyril May at Livermore, & John Kiley (former hunter-trappers?). Don McM. told of seeing cottontail attack bullsnake w. teeth. / Phoned Dick Weaver, Sacto, re puma hunt this weekend. Observed quail hunt by visitors - of 44 quail taken, 24 were juvenile. Muggy weather, occas. wind, high partial overcast, warm for season.

14 Nov. 1974. Thurs. Warm, high 3/10 overcast, no wind. W/ Jerry Broyles, departed in his Toyota jeep for coast via Paso R & hwy. 46. E. slopes mixed chaparral, live oaks, chaparral, grass; many small ranches. Passed Dove Cyn. road (lion occurrence). Drove up hwy. #1 to San Simeon Creek, then E. up road toward Rocky Butte. About 6 mi. up, stopped to talk w. Walter Warren, on ranch there

Journal

14 Nov. 1974. NW SL Obispo Co.

since 1932!! Kept misc. birds & domestic animals. Very talkative. Claimed to have killed a few puma years ago. Suspected one took small goat recently (no tracks or sight). About 1 yr. ago, 4 seen on road by family member; very tame, as if zoo escapees. Said eagles nested near Vulture Rock, upslope to E. Rather anti-lion, tho not for general hunting - but to protect stock. Initially blamed lions for decrease in deer pop. there. Talked there steady about 1 hr. / We continued about 2 mi. to locked gate & talked w. caretaker, Mr. Murphree. Here 7 years; saw puma once. But heard reports from several residents farther upslope - Sider, Rhodes, others. / Continued up road about 2 mi to gate on Rocky Butte Rd. Met Mr + Mrs Sider (of SL Obispo) coming from E. fork. They said often saw puma or tracks at their place, about 1 mi. to E. in E. drainage). Once saw 3 playing around water tank. They were strongly for protection. Recently retired. They recommended W. E. Rhodes as source - retired, from Palo Alto, walked much. Rhodes had 3500 A here, mostly on W. slope on Pacific side ridge. Some sign said R.O. Egelberg (said to be a Dr. - red gate to ranch). So, altho Beauchamp thought rare, others think many. A man (Cook?) from newsstand in Cambria had recently reported sighting on road. In deer season, hunters reported several dead fawns + supposed lion kills, N. of Rocky Butte. / We scouted roads at good spots & walked about 2 mi. up dirt road to Rocky Butte. Mostly only spots good for tracking, tho dirt road. Microwave sta. repairman had seen no puma. Fair nos. deer tracks; saw small 0 7 w. antlers, doe. More gates & scattered ~~country~~ holdings to N. - including Walter B Coles (80 A, cabin). Road goes thru Hearst Ranch area close to Hunter Liggett, but many gates. / ~~We so~~ Lookout, 3 stories, on R. Butte (Calif. DF?).

W - 3
C - 2

Walked back to car at locked gate. Went in side road toward Rhodes house & found puma tracks on sandy portions road, fresh. Only one ~~track~~ footprint most spots. 47 mm - 34 toe. 51 mm - 71 toes, 76 long. Others similar. None surely front foot. Found at least 15 prints, headed toward house, in 100 m. No

track

Journal

14 Nov. 1974. Thurs. NW S.L. Obispo Co., Calif.

one home, left card & note. Fine concrete block house. / Returned to Murphy's.
He said Cole had some dawn & would like to see me. We drove down to Cambria
& found WE Cole at 497 Wellington. He said interested environment & some. Offered
use of cabin N. of Rocky Butte. Said saw large puma about 2 mi. N. of
their house a couple yrs. ago. Skeptical of F&G. people. Said he could rec-
ommend me to Charlie Parlette (sp.?) to get keys to Hearst Ranch roads. Also
entree to 600 A. ranch on hwy. 46 in good lion country. Little actual animal info
suff info. from WEC but strong interest. / We drove up coast & took Bartlett Ridge
road to Coast Sn Ridge rd. (8 mi) & camped above fog. Calm & clear & warm.
15 Nov. 1974. Fri. Coast Ridge in S W Monterey Co., Calif. w. Jerry Broyles
& his Toyota jeep. Clear, calm, warm morning. Dick Weaver & Herb Hagen of F&G
arrived. We went ½ mi. toward Miguel Camp & turned off S. on signless road by two
large dead pines. Locked gate w. M. Waited for L. Sitton, & all talked for ¾ hr.
Only Bill Butler coming to hunt tomorrow. Sitton said he had not tranquilized
puma down the well (about 18' down, about 4' diam.; dirt & mossy sides
had given some support). Tried to resuscitate thru nose. They were to pick
up carcass puma that had supposedly killed "pony in m. atascadero recently.
Hagen mostly in radiotracking; he had worked on bit fisher - he thought
these & pumas not endangered spp.; thousands of pumas, he thought. /
6- N 7 Cone Pk., MrK ridge Jerry & I went to Lion's Den on ridge, checking soft spots on road for
tracks. From dead pines 1.8 mi. to sharp turn R. where Ponderosa pines
on L - trail in them and 2 or 3 apparent puma scratches in needles.
R 7 Photoed best, 10" long × 8" wide, 2½" pile, double groove. / Road gravelly
& generally poor tracking, tho occasional loam or silty spot. Tracks
of fox, deer, coyote, bobcat (occas. 1 of each). About 3000' on ridge.
6 miles, Burma Rd. to E. to HLMR, also gravelly. 8.3 mi, Alder C.
R 8 → Cone Pk (R) rd. to R (W). 11.1 mi. (1.7 to Lion's Den jct.), a patch of dried mud at

Journal (Coast Ridge Rd.)

15 Nov. 1974 SW Monterey Co. Calif.

KR 9 tracks / 10 " / 11 compare 2 w. coat

W. side road w. several puma tracks dried in mud. Look dusk at site. Photo of tracks. Apparently 2 pumas, one small, other larger (♂ + ♀?) heading S. One pair: 60-90 84 long F. 56 - H. | 44-81 F?, ?-85 | 51-79 F? Photo 11: [0] 56H 59F, 44-79F. | At Lions Den jct., walked up ridge to W. where said to be puma "toilet" but could not find it (later Sitton said before mine hole). Drove on to Lions Den camp, .5 mi. No cat tracks. Back to jct. + back to Kinder mine road (13 mi. from Lions D. jct.). Cool calm evening. 4/10 alto stratus late p.m. + fog over ocean to W. | Found dead Dipsosaurus near Lions Den camp. Saw 1 Sciurus in knobcone pines + found several cores of the cones. Saw 1 Mt. Quail only today, about 10 redtailed hawks, 1 apparent Aquila. | Many snags this area from former fires. Many down branches of oaks + some of pines from the wet snowstorm of last winter. | Camped by gate to mine.

16 Nov. 1974. Saturday Coast Ridge Rd. area, Monterey Co.

Sitton did not know about the good tracks this side Lions Den - thought Bill Butler [Bill said = ♂ + ♀.] had pursued cat there last weekend! About 0630, Sitton + Weaver arrived. We drove N. to McKern ridge rd. + down it, pausing at intervals to look for tracks; sometime Sitton sat on hood of truck to look. 3 mi from start (at N gate), tracks of small puma, pad 51 (Front), at edge road. | .7 mi. on, fresh tracks, same size, where truck dragged yesterday afternoon. 51-52 pad F, 46-47 pad H; 6" lead, 18" stride. About 3500', on McK. ridge. Headed E., down slope. On slope 10%, same size + good register. 1.2 mi. on, large fresh smelly gray-green dropping on road, piled about 6" high. Photoed. Contained some hairs (Sitton collected it). Doggy smell.

KR - drop.

Presumably puma (tho previously Sitton said never on open road). Puma track nearby. More tracks, 44-67 hind x in thin dust. Some tracks, same, in opposite direction. 43-64 (thin dust, sharp), 43-66, 75 long. | Radio gave beeps of last ♀

KR 13 - hind tr.

collared in area - dept? - identified by timing of pulses. Sitton thought tracks were

Journal

16 Nov. 1974. Coast Ridge, S. Monterey Co.

[later, Bill B. said she had ___ w. her] of the ♀ n, about 85 lbs. | Weaver said hunters said ♂♂ had stronger scent for dogs; possibly explained catching more ♂♂. | I questioned Sitton about aging by teeth - he had taken no measurements or photos; apparently aged by wear on canines, in opinion of hunters. Tracks continued at least 3 mi. on McK road; lost when steeper descent. / Saw bobcat track. Sitton said bobcat faces sometimes on top of puma scats (info via hunters?). | Reached bottom of slope, RS site J-H, where Gorlock road bldd. S. Fox + coyote tracks, 1300'. Cattle present. Softer ground. | Slowly about 3.3 mi. on Gorlock; no tracks, but dragged brush (for tomorrow's hunt). Then turned W. up Burma road, which (Ch. point 75) proved gravelly + hard, poor for tracking. Continued to ridge, about 7.5 mi. up from foot. Then a few mi. S. toward Los Burros, then (radio contact w. Bill Butler in L.-B. area) back to N on ridge. Butler met us - he said had found 2 day old track ♂ on Salmon Cr. road. With him in lead, 3 cars headed N. slowly. Bill had son with; they scanned roadsides out of pickup windows. (Dogs inside - never seen a hound). Continued to Nacim.-Fey. road + about 3 mi. beyond - Bill checked two scratch areas near road; only old scratches. Cold, foggy. Quit for the day - they will try McK. and Gorlock tomorrow. We returned to Shandon area, I. McM. ranch.

17 Nov. 1974. Sun. Again talked w. Ian. He pointed out that much higher nos. reported in about first half of F+G survey than in last part, as if became more conservative. Returned to Berkeley. | Sitton had been measuring only width across toes of captured lions, no sketches or photos of feet, so impossible to ~~identify~~ relate tracks found to ~~capture~~ collared pumas.

27 Nov. 1974 Wed. To San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

Departed about noon and drove via hwy. 101 to Shandon and I. McMillan ranch, where conferred w. Ian

28 Nov. 1974 Thurs, conferred further with Ian.

Journal

29 Nov. 1974. Santa Barbara Co.

Drove S. through Carrizo Plains, now much cultivated (plowed up). Few cattle seen - perhaps 2000 in all. Saw about 3 roughlegged hawks; about 10 sheep only. Soda Lake has water, but mostly salt. Continued to New Cuyama, where looked for Randy Long at USFS station. He on holiday. So turned back to hwy. 33, then S. about 4 mi, + took Santa Barbara Canyon rd. Locked gate about 1 mi. Continued on - road paved for about 9 mi., then old gravel. Poor tracking. Chaparral, then with oaks as ascended. About 15 mi. to locked gate, prohibited vehicle area. Road 32S13 headed NW to Sierra Madre ridge, thru potreros.

c-1

w-2 (+ nat.)

We walked up branch toward Big Pine Mtn., rd. 9N11; about 2 miles. Potential good tracking summer. Found no puma tracks. Returned to gate. Descended S. B. Canyon. Fairly rugged slopes, + some cliffs of red or tan ledges. Cuyama Pk. LO road from Cox Flat may be good tracking (4 w.d.?). / Drove W. on hwy. #166 to Cottonwood Canyon, then S. toward Bates Canyon. / Cuyama Valley still largely grazing land, tho large irrigated alfalfa fields nr. Cuyama town. The oil pumping area localized S. of New Cuyama. My first visit here in 20 yrs. +, I think. Still appears favorable for condor foraging, + cattle present. / Paved road up Bates C. to

c-3

White Oak Sta., still manned. Then narrow dirt road up past 3 campgrounds. Continued about 4 mi. beyond station to nr. Bates Pk, 4400', + camped. Steep slopes of chaparral - oaks, ceanothus, chamise, yucca. Fine views across Cuyama Valley. Full moon. Signs said plague in Bates Canyon, found in squirrel skunks.

KR 14 Bates Pk. area → NE, Cal. Mtn.

30 Nov. 1974. Night clear, calm, not cold. Found puma tracks on road at Bates Pk. ridge. Hiked up road to SE, mainly upslope

1st B+W ASA 125 3.5' — 2t. 6 l pack R 85mm

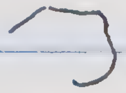
side road, but some center + downslope sides. Newer + older sets

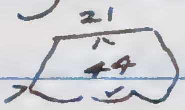
Journal

30 Nov. 1974. Sierra Madre ridge, Santa Barbara Co.

p. 53 about same size. 1/8" sandy dust. Toes elongated. Measured: 61p.-F, 53-H, (60p - 55-)

53-75±, 61-76±, 80 F, 53-72, 80 H. 10" lead, 23" stride. Slayer

RH . Same 3½" lead, 22" stride. 60-82, 82. 52-77, 80.

LF: 

∠60 w. | 55-75, 84 (¼" mud) (larger?). 65-85, 85. One

pad + 4 (2 mm. dust). Possibly 2 pumas, different times. | 13 mi. from

Hwy. 166, hit Sierra Madre crest, a rocky dirt road, wide. 5100' (7 mi. to

White Oak Sign Sta., 14 to Hwy 166). Drove slowly E, w. occas. track stops. Usually

about 4 sets deer tr., + coyote, fox. Old cattle droppings, no tracks.

C-4 after 7 mi., occas. bear tracks, reached fork to road 32 S13, to E, ½ mi. from

lookout on McPherson Pk. Met gang 20± Sierra Club hikers on road;

came from Alisio camp. McPherson LO would make good camp hdqtrs.,

as has stove, gas, water tank, fine views. | Returned to hd. of Bates

Canyon. | Then drove W., spot checking. More bear tracks. After 5 mi., gradually in Sec. 10, tracks puma: about 44-65, 73. 47-69 47-H (46-, 45-, 48-)

tracks p. 46 54-F (51, 53-). 47-73, 80. Poor tracks. Smaller than Bates C. (except one),

so probably different cat. Chamise brush slopes, outer edge rd.,

about 5000'. Same center of road. 2" register, 17" stride, 2-4 mm

C-15 sandy dust. No pass or draw at site, but head of wide canyon from H. S.

| about 2 mi. on, puma tracks, a few, probably same one. Chamise &

ceanothus. 200 yds. to Pine picnic area. Saw tracks occas. for

another ½ mile. 13½ mi. from Bates C head, road jct., upper to

Miranda Pine camp (blue oaks, Coulter pines, thousands acorns on ground).

About 3 mi. down narrow dirt rd. to Pine Flat. Went on 4 mi. & camped

on ridge. Much colder; cirrus clouds 5/10. Good view S. to Tepusquet

Dec. 1 KR15 → Manz.-Tepusq. Pk. Chaparral slopes, w. occas. annual grass openings.

Dec. 1, 1974. Sunday. Continued on dirt road. No puma sign. More

traffic evidence here, including motorcycles. After Lazy Camp,

Journal

18 Dec. 1974. N. Mono Co., Calif.

of puma seen in July 1974 at North Patriarch Grove by Syd Osgood. The F.S. man seemed very interested. They hoped to get animal studies made in the Indian Natural Area, a Jeffrey Pine reserve (said to have grey squirrels & probably chickarees) [In Leviathan Cr. canyon, I picked up some cones of Jeffrey pine, probably Aciurus work]. Drove S. to Benton turnoff to E (#120), 46 mi. to B. Mostly flat w. sagebrush, but some rolling hills w. spaced Jeffery pines. Glass Mtn., prominent to S., had open stands pines — pinyon lower, Jeffery higher, & snowy bare crest. Benton Range a long low (500'?) ridge w. spaced pinons, sandstone outcrops, apparently no (or few) roads. | ~~Charlie~~ Charlie Tant, former lion hunter, lived on Benton Valley ranch, a few (3?) mi. N. of town. Had a large old house trailer. One dog, Warrior, a Walker hound 7 yrs. old — others died, ~~stolen~~ stolen, or sold. Charlie & dog alone in this desolate place. He about 70, tall, high nose ridge. Bad eyes — one glass. Rather jowly face. But he proved very willing to talk at length. He had been in this area about 20 years, having first come to hunt lions nr. Coleville. Many sheep there & lions killed many, often wantonly. He said he took 17 lions in Benton Range in first season there. Preferred to hunt in summer, camp on trail of lion, walk ridges w. dogs. Frowned on road-hunters, & disliked F & G people, from Joe Hunter on. Apparently they had accused him of falsifying take by bringing in skins from elsewhere. He disliked Jay Bruce — said Bruce did not kill nearly as many lions as ~~credited~~ credited. Also Bruce tried to head Tant off & get his lion. Also disliked Steve Mather — said M. tried to poison his dogs. Various stories of following Mather to area, where M. had given up, & taking many lions. | Charlie said largest lion was in La Brea area of Santa Barbara co. A great killer, often along road from Garey[?] to Wallace ranch. Would leave one kill to make another. | Tant had also hunted Siskiyou Co. — Scott Valley, Ft Jones area, to Happy Camp, until lions about cleaned out. He said it

Journal.

18 Dec. 1974 — Nr. Benton, Mono Co.

took about 8 yrs. to hunt out the lions in a zone, then about 8 for them to reestablish numbers. / He also hunted in Washington & Oregon. Said lions compar-
[Glass Mtn.]
atively easy to get in Oregon, naive; also small. / Summer — area of Black Canyon
=Kelty?
Kelsey Mdws., Sawmill, & environs good. / Tracks — ♀ narrower & longer; only ♂ scratches (rare exceptions). Younger — toes more spread (my Pine Mtn. track cast, he said young ♂, tho 70 mm pad). Suckling ♀ — tends to have wobbly track because of hanging abdomen. / Scratches — forefeet, or often against object. ♂ may scratch much near ♀ crossing. / One example of ♀ going about 15 mi. from her cubs. ♂ — will eat cubs; one instance, ♂ killed only ♂ cub; thinks ♀ keeps cubs away from ♂. / Assoc. adults — two adult ♂♂ always together; probably litter mates — skin here at Montgomery Pass cafe-bar. Three ♀ (of litter?) also traveled together. / If follow ♂ track, meets all ♀♀ in area, T. says. / Droppings — nearly always contain broken bone fragments. / Scratch — another lion may scratch in exact same spot. Often under yellow pines. Sometimes 2' mound of needles — may cover droppings or (food part?). / Kill — starts to eat various spots, as inside leg, but eats right through bones. / Colville area — took 23 in one season (incl. 2 cubs), after Steve M. said few there. / Santa Barbara Co. — ? killed heifers. Took 17 (one year?). / Mentioned Bill Dyer, Lee Archer, [Steve Avila,] + other hunters. / White Mts. — W. side too rough to hunt, but lions E. side. / Distance — one went 40 miles when trailed. ♂♂ often go straight thru country. / In SB Co., hunted Hurricane Deck, Manzana, Sisquoc, Hildreth Pk., Loma Pelona, + big ranches such as Alisal (sp.?). Then (40's) rare in Davy Brown area, tho now reported many. Left SB Co. 1947. Huff's Hole — Lopez C. was good lion country. (Merle Van, Nevada hunter, very successful in. border. F&G or F&WL?). / Scratch — often in rotten wood. / ♂ more liable than ♀ to travel conspicuously on
On Alisal Ranch, S.B. Co.
roads. One area, first season got mostly ♂♂ (8 to 4?), but next year, mostly ♀♀. / Kills don't last long now as coyotes eat them. / Killing — ♂

Journal

18 Dec. 1974. Nr. Benton, Mono Co., Calif.

deer w. antlers, seems to pull head backward & break neck. Sometimes attacks other
parts farther back, or wounds & fail. | Tart suggested the new power line road
along E. side east of Benton Range for tracks. Also said that up Black Canyon, 1/2
mile upstream from end road, a big pine which often had scratches below. | We departed
(100± yds)
& went up the Benton ridge rd., which started just off pavement on dirt rd. N. from Willy
Wolf game N. of Benton Hot Spr. Dirt road, sandy dust. Sagebrush area at first.
2 1/2 mi. to Power line, then narrow road straight near line. We found here
a pile of 3 coyote carcasses, 1 badger, all skinned, & 1 raven corpse — obviously
C-4 W-1 a trapper in area. Went 2 miles along this road, ascending into pinyon &
sandstone boulder area. Coyote tracks. Remains several jackrabbits thrown
in a pile, as if meat kept. Very profuse crop pinyon cones & nuts — unusually
large crop, said Tart. Good dust tracking, but deer not down yet said
Saw no coyote, about 3:30 p.m.
Tart (saw a few deer tracks), & lions follow deer in winter. | We went then to
(Glass Mtn.)
the Black Canyon area — sage, pinyon, sandstone bluffs & boulders, small
stream, aspens. Jeffrey pines various upslope. Many coyote tracks in
snow, & dog, but no puma. Looked under the big Jeffrey pine — isolated from
others, next to stream. Sand bed needles below. Possible remains of old ?
about 1/2 ground had old snow.
C-4 W-2 puma scratches. Continued up 1/2 mile — fine varied scenery & clean look.
Returned to road. Went a few miles up Sawmill road to above 7000' & camped
among pinyons & low sage. Glass Mtn., Mono Co.

19 Dec. 1974. Clear calm night. about 10°F. at 0700. Wrote notes, & Erik ex-
plored up the road toward Sawmill Mdw. He found a few good sets
KR 64 #14, 15 → white mtns. #16 - Glass M. bobcat tracks, several of coyote, on old snow in borrow-pit area.
He also picked up several obsidian arrow heads, some unbroken. Heavy
W-2 C-2 crop of pinyon cones here. We drove up road to 8200', where
snow stopped us (4 w-d) and Jeffrey pines started. Found no
puma tracks in area. Snow old, 12"; probably hard at night. Saw

Journal

1 Dec. 1974 NW Santa Barbara Co., Calif

w-1
c-10 (o.w.)

road harder, the hound tracks evident. Continued on down Colson Canyon - partly paved. To Tepusquet Road. Returned via ~~San~~ San Luis Obispo to Shandon area.

15 ~~Nov.~~ Dec. 1974. Sunday. Departed Berkeley w. Jerry Brayles, his jeep, & son Erik, about 10 a.m. Drove via hwy. 80 to Norden. Snow cover spotty, but mostly 1-2' deep there. Visited Clair Tappaan Lodge. There, Mrs. Kent Williams said she saw puma near Norden, 6500', crossing road last summer. We snowshoed a short ways to test snow gear.

16 ~~Nov.~~ Dec. 1974. Monday. Departed Norden & drove via hwy. 80, then 89, to Tahoe City. Little snow on ground. Usual huge rainbow trout below spillway at start Truckee River. Drove S. via Meyers to Woodfords. At the store, young couple said a puma reported in Hope Valley (a few months ago?). To county maintenance station, about 1 mi. S., where talked w. Jim, who trapped sometimes. He thought Indian Cr. reservoir & Youngs Crossing likely spots for puma tracks in winter. Dave, who recently met crippled puma, was out. Next visited Artie Brown, warden at Markleeville. Talkative, much about trials & dedication of wardens. Had been warden since about 1948. Nevada hunters cross state line - he had cited one last? yr. for lion kill on Calif. side. Lions come down when deer do - not yet as very little snow. Deer still high around peaks to W. & NW. Few lions in lower area in summer. He knew Jeff Brent (Fallon hunter), who apparently wanted to run lions in Calif. Artie said formerly many lions in area - mentioned 18 taken one year (in 50's?). Brown was friendly & helpful. He gave us USFS map w. marked traveling roads, & drew other maps. Included Fay Canyon area to N.W. of Fredericksburg, River Ranch area E. of Indian Sprs. Res., around reservoir (he noted at least 3 points where he had seen tracks during last year), Leviathan mine road & branches. Much of this in the rough triangle of roads bounded by 395, road to Gardnerville, & Monitor Pass

Journal

16 ~~Nov~~ Dec. 1974. Monday. E. Alpine Co., Calif.

rd. Also recommended Slinkard Valley (but locked gates on rds.). He said poor tracking now, but Nevada hunters will be out when snow comes. The road W. from Double Springs a good entry to Leviathan zone. / We drove out to Indian Cr. Reservoir, around airstrip. Found many dog and deer tracks. Mostly pinyon pine country, but also Jeffrey pines. Rocky in nearby hills.

tr. c-5 w-1 ~~He~~ Brown recommended Dick Padgett, at Walker, for info. / Snow old + patchy, + ground mostly hard but spots trackable. / We drove to Gardnerville rd., then N., then E. (Stoosen? Rd.), which converted to dirt road through sagebrush plains, past Los Gatos ranch, + eventually met hwy. 395. Drove S. to Double Springs (tall sand tank on W.), then W. on [032] - good dirt road for tracks (when dusty). Various side rds. Spot checked. Pinon + Jeffrey pines in hills, w. sandstone outcrops. All good for horse work, as open enough. Continued up road along stream toward Leviathan mine, ~~&~~ until road forked + partly washed out. Walked about ½ mile up roads. No sure puma tracks, tho dog, cattle, deer tracks. Camped in canyon, ~~[illegible]~~ a short distance into Calif. Promising for tracking after light snowfall, or in dusty summer. Clear + cold night.

17 ~~Nov.~~ Dec. 1974. Tuesday. Returned to hwy. 395, spot checking for tracks. Then S. to Mountain House, & turned W. on Microwave Sta. rd. (rec. by Brown). About ½ mile to Nevada Bell station, where talked w. employee. He said he often saw puma tracks nr. microwave sta., saw puma about 3/4 mile from top last winter. We went up the winding dirt road. Dog + deer tracks in frozen ground - probably good tracking in summer. Micro sta. about 8000'; cyclone fenced; w. patches snow in sagebrush area. Some red firs + aspens visible. Walking search briefly. Then

w-1 on toward S. Met Nevada F. & G. man - he had clover deer traps out, baited w. alfalfa. Had about 25 deer marked. Numbers of deer tracks, + usual dog + coyote tracks. Road snowy but passable on top, where low brush main vegetation. Many deer + coyote tracks. Entered Monitor Pass rd.

Journal

17 Dec. 1974. SE Alpine Co., Calif.

at same level, about 8000'. about 1 ft. snow continuous. Drove W. to the pass & snowshoed about, looking for tracks. Many of coyote, but I saw no deer tracks in aspen area. (Jerry reported deer in another zone). A lookout stop Leviathan Plx., but only rocks & low sage on slopes. Worth check in summer, or new snow. | We drove S. on hwy. 89 a few mi. to Slinkard Valley rd., 6200', which Brown had recommended, but met locked gate (USFS & other locks). Returned to 89 & drove onto 395, then S. to Mill Canyon road, & W. to an Golden Gate mine, where road began to ascend into large pines & became icy. | Turned back to #395 & went to Walker. Went to home of game warden, Dick Padgett, but no one home. | Continued S. to Sonora jct. (pass to W. closed), then E. to ft. of Swauger Canyon, recommended by Brent. Tried road, but snow depth - stopped in 1/4 mile. | Drove on to Bridgeport & visited Ranger Sta. Ranger out (and all FOT?), but received good maps & road info. Girls told us lion recently killed illegally near there. | We drove then on #182 to start Masonic Rd., & NE on this, a dirt road in sagebrush, pinyon, & juniper into rocky hills. Patches of old snow. Occas. old small bldgs. Various side roads or trails. We took branch road toward Bodie. Flushed 7 sage grouse from low brush. Growing late, so descended Aurora Canyon rd. back to Bridgeport, then drove S. to Mono Lake nr. Lee Vining. also

18 Dec. 1974. 18° in morning by Mono Lake. We visited Wesley Johnson, game warden. He said Bodie area had pumas. Recommended Charlie Tant & Dick Padgett for information. Friendly enough but no new data. | Then to ranger station, Lee Vining, of Inyo N.F. & talked w. Lyle Wilkinson and wildlife man (Humboldt State) Richard Hubbell. | Johnson had mentioned Glass Mtn. area, & that Steve Mather formerly hunted pumas there. Also that lion had killed a pig near Lee Vining recently & attacked a calf. Also mentioned Pizona area for pumas (Brown also mentioned). | USFS men had heard reports from Lundy Lake area & only report area on Sierra side. They had report

Journal

19 Dec. 1974. Mono Co., Calif.

a few Clarke crows. Returned N. to hwy. 120 & drove W. to 395. Went 2 mi. on Grant-June Lake loop road, to trailer home of Morris P. Anderson, who was working on deer, year round, in Walker R. area - but out. Wife had heard report puma in June Lake area; vague. / We drove N. W. side of Sweetwater range appeared fairly uniform habitat, open slopes w. pinyon. Saw 4 deer ascending slope. Saw several rough leg or ferruginous hawks over plains N. of Bridgeport, in about 5 in 2 miles. Saw one coyote near road. / Continued on to Walker & talked w. Richard Padgett, game warden, in area about 7 yrs. About early 30s in age. Said sheep numerous in area, including Slinkard V., but no claims depredations during last year. Reluctant to reveal specific crossings or locations, as argued puma a trophy animal & finding is part of hunt. But knows of

c-1 puma crossing on Monitor P. road. Little specific info. Thought few some zones, many in others, w/i district. / We continued to Topaz. Upland Sunfly rd. to lake.

20 Dec. 1974. Friday. Still no snowfall, the high stratus overcast. Drove up Monitor Pass rd. Snow on ground started about 7000'. Saw 3 deer there. On W. side pass, near Jeffrey pine. 7300', started up Leviathan

c-3 Mine rd. in about 4" old snow. Sandy dirt. Wide-spaced conifers. Continued

w-1 1½ mi to highest pt., 7600', where 1' old snow. Walked about - many tracks coyote and deer, no puma. Returned to hwy. Down narrow rocky canyon w. pinon + juniper. Passed road (E) to a mine, 4 mi. Ebbetts Pass road open to W. Near Hangman's Bridge (attic Brown puma report?), a shallow lava cave, apparent Neotoma excrement on walls, black & greasy appearance. On via Luther Pass to Meyers & w. on hwy. 50. At

spec. Echo Summit, in red fir zone, found 2 Tamiasciurus dead on road, ♀ fresh + warm, ♂ frozen hard, w/i ½ mi, about 7300'. Old snow, none on trees. Continued on to Berkeley.

Journal

26 December 1974. Alameda Co, Calif.

Letter from Mrs. W. R. Lufast, of N-3 ranch, nr. Livermore, told of calf killed about 2 weeks ago, dragged 100±' to under a tree, partly covered w. leaves, twigs.

Jan. 1975. Correspondence. Wrote up plan of method for counting pumas by tracks. Photo printing of tracks. Casting tracks; dental cream proved good. Jan. 22 ~~27~~, Peter Stine visited Gary Bogue in Walnut creek & got casts footprints of 13 m. old ♀, 13 – 110 lbs. Measured. RF 52-76, 75 long. RH 44-72, 70 long. Center post. lobe about 5 mm. short / Used dental cream in track in day. Cat getting difficult to handle. Will do again soon. / Jan 22. Went to Pt. Reyes Marin Co. Nat'l Seashore w. Bob Jones & Jim Patton. They looked for bats. I got list puma reports from Dick Smith, & marked on topo maps. Most reports between hdqtrs. & coast. / Jan. 24, I attended the Calif.-Nevada section of Wildl. Soc. meetings at Sacramento. Talked w. Dick Weaver, Ron Bertram; F+G Dave Isaacs, Harley Leiseman, Hubbell (Lee Vining), & others of USFS.; sev'l. men from Humboldt State U.; Bill Longhurst, & many others. Also John Borneman of NAS, & P. Howard of same. Showed prints of puma track photos to various; gave some to P. Howard. / Fairly dry month, cold during brief periods. No field work. / Received from Jeff Brant some puma droppings (w. porcupine quills) from Utah, and a small embryo (one of 3 in 4-5 yr. old ♀, wrote J. B. from Orderville, Utah. Since Dec. 14, he (& hunters) took 7 pumas in Utah, 1 in Nevada.
15 Jan. 1975, I gave Wed. noon talk about puma project to MVZ Berkeley luncheon group.

5 March 1975. During past few days, I have conferred with Jeff Brant, puma hunter of Nevada, who is looking for

Journal
(Puma Survey)

5 March 1975. Berkeley, Calif.

other job in Calif. He gave me measurements scratches, foot-prints, from his notebooks, & loaned me his notes. Recently he visited hunter friends nr Bartlett Springs, Lake Co., & they found sign of pumas. Brought me sample droppings. Jeff will do some tracking for project. / Peter Stein, student, measured cheek tooth row & lower canine & length of all F. c. c. skulls at MVZ, looking for meaningful correlation for use in capture studies. / Brent says Wiley Cornell & Dick Hall are best contacts in Nevada for puma info. White Pine County best for these cats. He knew Bill Butler & Mike Frornhold but was not impressed w. their ability, thinking them overconfident of own opinions. File had copy of account by Frornhold to Wiley Cornell about scratches, routes, and so on. F. thought ♂♂ more on ridges, ♀♀ lower in canyons, tho no actual observations given. Thought ♂♂ hunted in heads of canyons & liked to rest there. One article in file (a book chapter) about hunt in Reliz Canyon (the Arroyo Seco, Monterey Co. ove →) with Steve Mather. am

6 March 1975. Departed 11 a.m. in Chev pickup & drove S. via highway 101 to Paso Robles & Shandon, to S.L. Obispo Co. to J. McMillan Ranch. Overcast & occas sprinkles; wet ground. Quail - Ian says little food; birds have cleared areas near house. He has heard one "caw" call. We discussed puma project, especially Fish & Game results. Also condor project & recent developments. / Ian thinks could help depredation claims diagnoses if there were $1000 fund to guarantee that plaintiff would suffer no financial loss due to delay in issuing kill permit.

7 March 1975. Phoned H. Kreimann at Santa Maria. Overcast &

Journal
(Puma Survey)

7 March 1975 San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

occas. rain continued. More talk with Dan, + looked over his puma files. Much corresp. w. Sen. Dunlap. / We inspected some range conditions related to quail, + went over photographs for quail book. Roads sloppy + showers continued. I stayed at ranch. Saw 1 Marsh Hawk, white-crowned sparrows, redtailed hawks, usual other birds + mammals.

S.L.O. Co.

8 March 1975. Sat. Rain showers, overcast. Drove to ~~La Panza~~ Pozo summit. Checked turnouts for tracks since bottom. Heard Mt. Quail calling. Walked S. up firebreak. Rare fresh deer track or old coyote track. About 1 mi., possible old puma track. Rain had washed out tracks. Poor tracking except spots. About 1¼ hrs. to Rich Ranch jct. Walked SW. up ridge. at first crest, 2 puma scratches in

K1 narrow section path, in pine needles. Photo. about 9"x 9" layout, + mound. Second 4' distant (6"x 6"), mound at opposite end. Before rain marks. / A few hundred m. W., highest piney point (where scratches last year), several scratches. 4 spaced over

K2 10 m., 2-3 m. to S. trail, + one 10 m. to N. Photod one, 6" wide x 9" long.

K3 Farther on, puma tracks in edge puddle in trail. Photod. 55 mm pad x 85± toes. / Fresh bobcat track in mud, earlier. / Walked on to peak w. wooden triangle, but no sign there or beyond, where last year. Walked out a ridge w. firebreak to S. ¼ mile; no tracks. / Started back to E. on crest. about 3½ mi. from car here. Back to Rich R-Brand Mtn. jct. Continued on ¼ mi. E. on ridge, where found 2 scratches on pine needle floored clearing

K4 .25cr. 1/30 F4 5 m S. of Trail. Photo. ~~Tracks~~ Scratches 1' apart; another 10' distant. All in thin pine needles. / Rain on + off. Walked back to car, 7 mi. round trip (watch + pedom). Flushed Calif. quail covey in brush. / A flock of 15± crows flew E. over La Panza summit. / Drove back to D Mc M. Ranch. Saw a golden eagle fly over about 200' up. Quail flew down slope when eagle near. Still drizzly at dark.

Journal
(Puma study)

9 March 1975. Calif. San Luis Obispo Co.

Overcast, threatening. Drove to Pozo summit & to Pozo. No one at FS station. Then to Avenales Ranch. (Checked turnouts on W. side pass; occas. deer tracks.) Coll. 1 Batrachoseps under board under oak by road, nr. Salinas River. Occas. deer tracks in silt at sides road. Cattle & horses near road. To Cliff Hudson house. Cliff knows of no lion sign since last fall, when dead buck found in "The Douglas" near trough, apparent lion kill. Drove up to Pilitas pasture. No cattle up there. Parked by wire gate & walked N. up ridge to east trail. About 1/2 mile from gate, puma tracks in depression in trail, about 55 across rear pad, but several days old & not clear. On grassy ridge under blue oaks, another Batrachoseps under dead limb. / Near barbed wire gate on trail, tracks again (all head S), on slope, none on silty flat. Went on 1/4 mile & found several more tracks, none fresh & clear. All apparently same cat. / Returned toward car. Took picture one track on trail. / Drove E. to east, about a mile, checking turnouts. Then returned to bottom & back to McM. Ranch. Sprinkles at times. Walk 4 mi rt.

coll. salam.

coll. salam.

track

mi (rt)

W: 2
C: 2

10 March 1975. Mon. Drizzly again; rain last night. I drove to Santa Maria to confer w. Harley Greiman [?], Resources Officer. He gave me photos of fawn and raccoon killed by puma near Big Rocks, SW of Branch Mtn., last August. Only recent report from the Redwood Indian Foundation, S. of Fernandez Spring; said seen several times by local Indians. Arranged to brief a group of USFS men here on April 15. Also met Game Warden Rawlerson [?]. Talked about peregrines, which nest at Huff's Hole. Apparently nest robbed last yr. Plan a closed area soon around site. Talked about condors too. Only reports last winter from Bob Goodchild at his ranch in La Brea Creek, 7. / Also met new district ranger, Bruce Van Zee [?], about early 30s, seemingly very cooperative. Formerly at Hayfork. He had seen puma only twice, near Trinity-Shasta line. Got additional

Journal
(Puma)

10 March 1975. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

names & addresses. Returned to McMillan Ranch.

11–26 March 1975. Berkeley, Calif.

Had several talks w. Jeff Brent, who is working part time on this survey. He knows many lion areas & hunters in Calif. He marked maps w. known lion hunting areas from Lake Co. to Siskiyou Co. / Weather has been rainy & poor for roads & tracking. He made one brief trip to Mt. Hamilton area, where lion signs reported but apparently nearly all land in private ownership or locked up. / He says that Butler & Frambold used to hunt there, probably in 1960's. Sometimes in area of Cot S. Park toward the observatory reserve, S. of Mt. Hamilton. / Re present F&G project in Monterey Co., fide Brent, Butler says only two radio-collars working now. Says he treed a large ♀ (Wizard Gulch?) but could not raise F&G on radio. Dogs stayed w. lion overnight. Next week (31 Mar. –), Butler will camp near Jolon and work alone at hunting. Butler wants to work in Wizard Gulch, north of previous area, & also farther S. on San Simeon ranch area. Frambold is apparently "intellectual" one of the hunting pair, & younger, whereas Butler out for hunting results. Butler says new F&G helper (Foster) on project knows almost nothing of lion sign; also that Sitton rarely seen. Sitton is talking of working in a different area. / Rainy period ended 26 March.

28 March 1975. Friday. Departed Berkeley 10 a.m. in U.C. pickup. Clear, windy. Via San Jose, Salinas, Carmel Valley, to Hastings Reservation. Talked w. Jim Griffin & John Davis about vegetation & conservation problems. Rody Gutierrez, grad student, also here. Stayed at Hastings.

29 March 1975. Sat. Clear, cold. Drove to Jamesburg (road),

Journal

29 March 1975 N. Monterey Co., Calif.

then up ~~Tay~~ Tassajara road. Large oaks on slopes, patches
w-3/4 oak-manzanita brush. Parked at crest. Walked 1/4 mile to Chew's
Ridge L.O., looking for puma tracks. Dog only. Walked out ridge &
trail to NW, 1/2 mile. Deer tracks rare - perhaps 2 sets only. No
coyote or bear sign. Main road would be fair tracking when dusty,
though much ~~sand~~ recent road driving. Much brush near lookout. Coulter
Pine & large oaks on slopes. / Continued on to China Camp area. Took
trail W toward Pine Valley (6 mi.). First 1/2 mile thin dark woods
tan oak, madrone. Then more open, brush, meadows. Trail mod-
w-3 erate up & down grades, then steeper down mi. Church Divide. We
turned back after about 3 mi. Met perhaps 52 backpackers re-
turning from area. At one pass, possible old puma scratch.
Occasional fox(?) droppings on trail, but no large droppings.
Dog tracks & saw dogs w. hikers. No deer sign, but hiker
w-2 from Pine Flat said saw 6 deer. Good views of up & down steeply
vegetated slopes w. some rock outcrops. Heard no quail.
A road descended into Church Creek (private road, no vehicles) &
appeared good for tracking. Ground generally rain-packed now;
visited tinajitas & ravines for tracks. Drove down to end of
Tassajara road, last 5 mi. especially steep & rocky, to Zen Center.
(Not open yet, so no inquiry.) Returned to Hastings Res. Again
talked w. John Davis. Chews Ridge-Tassajara area worth
1-2 days tracking when dust good, I think. / Saw no
turkey vultures or eagles today, i.e. [illegible] [illegible].
Not rich fauna in ridge area. (tho Gutierrez saw over 20
Oreortyx in Anastasia Canyon to E. of Chews Ridge today).

N. Monterey Co.

30 March 1975. Sunday, Easter. Drove down paved Arroyo Seco

Journal
(puma survey)

30 March 1975 Arroyo Seco, U. Monterey Co.

road. Missed turnoff to Piney Creek, where some thought pumas. Took road to Arroyo Seco Station (paved!), where hundreds of campers. Talked w. USFS men Jim Ballard (30±) & older Lloyd -. They thought that Arroyo Seco to Indians road, branch at Hanging Valley to E. (4 mi. long?), Reliz Canyon, & Piney Canyon best tracking. They mentioned reports of tracks in previous years. At The Indians, Swede Hansen (USFS) should be good informant, & Sal Alisandro. Bill Clark in lookout at Chew's Ridge, not yet manned. Showed Ballard pictures of tracks. Left poster. Requested reports. / Drove out road toward HLMR about a mile. Dirt, mostly 1 lane, near river w. cliffs, chaparral, oaks, steep slopes. Saw several cars, but tracking may be good later at midweek. // Drove back toward Greenfield & stopped at Ben Gould Sr. ranch (white barns, before bridge) & talked w. him. He here 35 yrs. Ranch in Reliz Canyon. Said had never known of lion depredation on cattle. (Mather took lion for F & G collaring in Reliz C. a few yrs. ago.) Buck Wiley, who was anti-lion, raised sheep - I talked to Mr. Warner, who formerly worked for Wiley, but he had no hard evidence of actual lion predation. Gould gave permission to go thru Reliz Canyon ranch. (Ben G. Jr. lives at highway jct, sign at house). / Arroyo Seco much built up now near river w. small houses & trailer parks. Has commuters. / Gould about 70, cowboy clothed, friendly. Said killed lion once when a boy. Would like to see protected. / Went to Reliz Canyon road. (Beyond G. ranch is land of Tony Hansen (sp.?), on Vaquero side (= ?), & Sam Avila. Gould said Vaquero Canyon may be good tracking too). // S. up Reliz C. road. Locked pipe gate. Fine green grass bottom w chaparral steep slopes E + W. Cattle grazing. Passed white ranch house, small, near

Reliz C. Rd.

~~0~~ Highway - Gould place.

1.6 to locked pipe gate = 0.

	+	.3	pipe gate, open.
↓		1.4	wooden gate, white house to W
S		2.7	wood gate
		4.4	washed out

Journal
(puma survey) **Reliz Canyon**

30 March 1975. N. Monterey Co. Calif.

low sandstone bluffs. Stream clear, about 10' wide. Forded ~~it~~ twice. 2½ mi. beyond locked gate, bottom flat narrowed to about 100', including stream. Sandy spots on road & puma tracks, going S & N. apparently one large cat and one (possibly 2) smaller. Some tracks older, but freshest could have been last night. Rare vehicle use of road. Pad measurements, in 10 mm fine sand: 64, 53, 54, 47 (pointed lateral lobes), 49. Photoed. One, p. 51 wide, 43 long 19 mm. Seil measured p. 47 + 53 (of hind & front ?). Some 60 or 61, 83 toes (big one). 51 p x 90 long. 51 p x 87 l. / about .2 mi. on to wooden gate. Deer - saw groups of 8 to 10 in grasslands on oaks. In one gp., two had antler nubs 2" long. / a spectacular split rock cliff to W. of road; sandstone bluffs to 100' high. To S of gate more cattle & no tracks pumas found. Crossed creek & found one set, pad 54, 57, near oaks, sycamores, where bottom 100 yds. wide. 54 p x 90 toes, about 1.2 mi. S. of wooden gate. 2.7 mi. S. of that gate, road badly washed out, so turned back to N. On way, saw more groups of deer. On to Greenfield and to Berkeley via highway 101, arriving early eve.

(margin: large + small ♂-♀ pads; Hp 54 Hp 47 / 1 w. scale p. 56, t. 87. / (11) 3 tracks / (12) area, canyon, cliffs to S.)

2 April 1975. Berkeley. Rec'd telephone call from Charles Lowery on Sequoia N.F. telling that district ranger had hit 50± lb. cub w. car on road near Dunlap in March. Another cub & adult seen. Cub shot by sheriff. Tulare Co., Sequoia N.F. / Heard that Calif. F+G groups had captured a ♀ puma, late March, w. 3 (?) cubs. at that time, only 2 radio collars present & functioning.

10 April 1975. Departed Berkeley 0830 for trip to Santa Barbara Co. Via Livermore & Mt. Hamilton. From highway, 5 mi to start Mines Road (at Tesla Rd.). 20% cloudy. 5 more miles to branch to Valle Reservoir. Lower

Journal

10 April 1975 Mt. Hamilton, Santa Clara Co.

1-42-70 W. country decid.-oak-grassland, small ranches, sycamores near stream. As ascended to S., more brush on NE aspect slopes. ±15 mi. (from highway), brushy canyon head to SW w conifers at head, + some snow at tops. Digger pines near road. Saw 3 separate redtailed hawks, 2 turkey vultures. ±19.4, small red-painted store. 20 – Ranch for Mocho? to W. – clear stream 20' wide – Windmill Trail to W. Tall J Ranch to W. Other gates; mostly fenced & posted. Paved road 30' wide, but rare traffic today. 25 mi – digger pines, chaparral on steeper slopes. On flats, carpets small yellow flowers. Other sites, lupines & yellow poppies in full bloom. Occasionally saw 1 to 3 Spermophilus. 26 mi – Alameda/Santa Clara Co. line. More trees than grass. Leaflow decid. oaks, digger pines, patches chaparral. 27.8 – Bi¢l ranch area to W. (posted). 28.9 – at least one open dirt road to E, into chaparral hills. Motorcycle tracks (no fences or posting). Over a crest. Then several square miles of chaparral to W – no fences or posting. O E Bi¢l again. I saw 2 deer in bottom. Small antlers or some horns. 30 – sideroad down chaparral canyon. 31.2 – another to E. Some ridge fuel-breaks. Ground firm from rains but promises dust later. Over another rise onto flatter ground w more grass + oaks. 34.8 Div. Forestry Sta (Star Rte. 41). San Antonio store at jct. (31 mi to Patterson, 38 to S. Jose). Then grassland-oak flats w. big ranches, surrounding hills w. brush, fenced. about 40 mi, up into

2-7 SE chap. hills unfenced chaparral again. Clouds 10%. Took photo to SE. Then chaparral hills & some watered canyons w ranch gates (locked R.?). Then ascended to Top of mountain (Mt. H.). UC reserve starts about 2 miles before top. Coulter & digger pines near road. Lick Observatory buildings at top – at least one dirt jeep trail descending to S. (opposite slope chaparral), & trails N. near the fire lookout to E. of observatory. Canyon live oaks & digger pines. Many visitors here; 20± cars parked. Old snow 6" deep, now patchy. 4200' altitude. To W. & NW, lower areas fairly open – oak grassland. More chaparral

Journal

10 April 1975. Mt. Hamilton, Santa Clara Co.

to NE. (I have written to manager of Isabel R. for puma ~~[illegible]~~ reports.). [illegible] lookout may be good for tracks – a saddle nearby. Road down to San Jose heavily traveled, fairly open slopes, probably poor for pumas. Going

w-2

S. from San Jose, slopes seen to E. all fairly open. Coe St. Park, back in hills, may be more rugged & brushy (write to ranger?). / I continued on to Paso Robles & Shandon. / Long talk w. Sam McMillan. Quail were paired up but rain & cold have apparently delayed nesting. Possibly such delays encourage double brooding in some years, but no recovery in others (1971?). Nr. Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co.

11 April 1975. Cold, partly foggy, frosty in spots. Quail "cow" calls. Talk w. Sam McM. Then departed via Camatta Canyon. Found dead Didelphis & Lepus together on road, fresh, ~~near~~ opposite feed lot. Yellow flowers abundant on some short grassy slopes. Drove S. to Navajo road, then toward Fernandez Spr. to Redwind Foundation (PO Box 518, Santa Margarita), where pumas reported last year. One came to meet me – black hat, leather jacket – said people who

c-2

saw pumas not here, but he would not give names. Small settlement of sheds, tepee, painted rocks, plastic greenhouse, in chaparral hills of former Bethel Bros. ranch. Drove farther N. on Fernandez rd. – some muddy spots – road rough, mostly hard – went to Fernandez Trail. Then turned back to S. 2.2 mi. until joined Navajo road. Spot checked as proceeded to summit. All tracks ran. Some dog, deer. On W. side wet, too hard for tracking. 3.2 mi. down to Navajo Ranch. / Drove to Pozo station. Talked w. Sam Trotter. No new info on pumas or condors. Drove then toward

c-1

Hi Mtn, spot checking. Ground too hard for good tracks, but good in wet spots. About 3.7 mi. to cross & jct. Took road toward Arroyo Grande – new to me. Bush lupine in bloom (pink prickly phlox, some dry sites). Mostly under Quercus agrifolia on slopes, shady. Garcia Mtn. slope largely

Journal

11 April 1975 San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

chamise, some rock outcrops. 2.4 mi. from crest, saw trail going up Garcia Mtn, straight up. Entered Rancho Arroyo Grande (5 mi. from Pozo) of Ranchita Cattle Co. Descended, sometimes among steep chamise slopes. 1.7 mi. into ranch to Salt(?) Creek, clear, 4' wide, shaded under live oaks. I collected 1 Ensatina, 3 Batrachoseps, under rotting oak branches on ground. On down stream under shady oaks. Then up to divide (4.5 mi into ranch), where more grassland. Then more grassland & cattle. Rancho A. Grande gate, 10 mi. into ranch. About 1 mile to red & white house, pipe gate. 3½ mi. more to A. Gr. station of USFS, 12 mi. from Hi Mtn. jct. Surrounding hills chaparral. Road soon hit arm of Lopez Lake. Campers, boaters. Good road up Lopez Canyon, nr. Huff's Hole (peregrine nest some yrs). Could find none of mapped roads to S., & raining lightly. ~~Slopes~~ Slopes E. of Lopez Lake may be good for pumas, as chaparral, but mostly grass-oaks to W. Continued on to S L Obispo. Ridge NE of town may be good tracking site. Returned to Shandon. Cloudy night.

12 April 1975. Sat. Clear, Calm, frosty. Departed McMillan Ranch ranch for Avenales. Saw coveys 5-20 Lophortyx, but also numbers of pairs in Gillis Canyon. Bush lupines in bloom. / Ian - said recently saw one bobcat chasing another near his house on ranch, as if of one male attacking another, but few bobcats seen during last years. / W. thru Cammatta Canyon, thru N.F. to La Panza camp area, & W. to Avenales Gate, 37 mi. from McM. ranch. At Pozo La P. summit, heard Oreortyx calls, at least 4, in brush. Roads hard, cattle tracked. (Saw one Urocyon on road (alive) near La P. summit.) From locked gate, 7 mi. to Agua Escondido road. Out it to Stony Creek road, 2.3 mi. (Photo to E., Machesna mtn) 1.9 mi. out S.C. road to campground 2100'. Many cattle in bottom & road much tracked. (3 mi. more N. to Huasna trail). Walked up trail to W, to top Garcia Mtn. ridge. About 200 m. before top, old puma tracks, made before last rain. About 6 tracks. Pads 57 & 50 (approx.). Photod tracks w. scale. Ridge 2900'. Rocky fire-

Margin notes: Bobcat; E > Machesna; Hp50 K15 - tracks

Journal

12 April 1975. SE San Luis Obispo Co, Calif.

brush trail, but occas. sandy spots. Tracks: coyote, & droppings of same (?).

K-NW → Mack. P. mtn (gulf ft.) Tracks: deer. Walked 200 yds. atop ridge - better later in year. | Returned to S.C.

camp & found trail ascending Pine Ridge, starting near water tank. Much cattle tracked.

Returned to Agua Escondido road & went W. | .9 mi. on, side road 1½ mi. to Avenales

Obs. point, a knoll with good view all around. In chaparral & oak-grassland hills, puma habitat. Bobcat track. Occas. sandy spots on road. Back to

G. mtn. → NE, trail

road and on .6 mi. to Agua Esc. camp, by stream in oak-grassl. canyon, near

brush patches. (Just before camp, ATV road to S., up ridge - coyote tracks - walked it ½ mile.). 4 beyond camp, locked road to E. along PG&E power line -

goes thru grassland w. some oaks; no USFS locks. But FS lock on opposite

section, to W. Another mile to locked gate (USFS), & .3 mi. to Jangles Ranch rd. &

went out this < 1 mi. to ranch gate (locked; not USFS). (Road thru ranch would go

to Cable Corral, Big Rocks, & highway 166. Mostly deciduous oak grassland, with

patches of chamise on some hills. Drove a mile toward Arroyo G. & took PG&E

road back to E. Partly thru chamise, but hard packed clay & heavily cattle

ti: c-7 w-3 tracked. Returned thru Avenales R. to McMillan Ranch, nr. Shandon.

13 April 1975. Conferred w. Dan re kit foxes, poisoning, coyotes. (Heard coyotes from house last night.) Saw Swick (F&G, 1973) report on 1080 poisoning on Carrizo Pl. and kit fox res. ~~Worked on motor equipment.~~

14 April 1975. Drove to Santa Maria, about 80 mi, to talk w. USFS group at

ranger station. Talked about 30 min. to group of about 30, including men

from Pozo Sta., White Oaks Sta. Latter said a ♀ and cub seen near station

(last winter?); presumably on H. Greeman's maps. Guard living on

Avenales Ranch (I talked w. him last summer) said he had seen no puma

sign there. Summer lookouts not yet on job. I also talked with

men about condors. One man said that sculptor living near Whiteoak

Sta. had reported a condor landing & going in hole near White Lodge

White Mtns
San Joa.
Breckenridge
Piute mtns.

Bill Dye - Springville
Bilton - hunted w.

W. Stan.: Rec. Camp ? rd.

Hunted w. J. Bruce.

Rogan - Miss. S.J. Laut. - Lay bros.

Ellis Berry - hunt w. Bruce.

Pilot Rock - Copco Res. area - Siskiyou Co. - formerly site (G Ad

Buss - Kern Co. - (Bakersfield).

says trades Scodie (?) mtns. S. of Walker Pass (groves, dancing books ups).

Tollgate = other sites in E. Kern Co.

Journal

~~13~~ 14 April 1975. Santa Maria, Santa Barbara Co., Calif. ~~1975~~

trail, Manzana Cr. Huff's Hole area now closed by USFS regulation, for protection of a peregrine nest & former condor site. I returned to Berkeley.

15 April 1975. Wednesday. Attended meeting Puma advisory Committee, DOW, with Mrs. Owings, ASL, Robt. Orr, Jim Stiles, M. Hornocker, & Dr. Ralph Buchsbaum. Explained progress. Later wrote "minutes" for Mrs. O, and an annual report to DOW. / Had good visit w. M. Hornocker. He said that Wilbur Wiles had originally estimated 35 lions in their not-trading area, whereas max. seasonal no. about 16.

To Fresno Co., Calif.

29 Apr. 1975. Tues. Departed Berkeley noon for Sierra N.F. Clear. ~~Gras~~ Grasslands green, E of Madera. Snow above 5000'. Via Trimmer R.S. Big Creek road graveled in spots; hard dirt otherwise. Went about 6½ mi. on Big Creek road & to trailer at USFS camp. Ron —, Bill Stewart, — Burns, Art Hohl, of F & G there, & G. Ashcraft — collecting deer. Said deer should move up in about 2 weeks. Condition herd slightly better than last year. antlers now half grown. Herd counts (fall) indicated increase of ♂♂ by 2-3 times, ~~to~~ the still low nos. (14/100 does) (G. Ashcraft). / Pine Flat lake drawn down about 30'. / Track, small, reported nr. Dorrit Dike (fide Ron). Clear night. Coyotes — men said 5 seen last 3 days. // Big Creek, Sierra N.F.

track report

30 Apr. 1975. Talked w. F & G men. Slowly drove up Big Creek road, hard dirt but occas. soft spots on sides. Cattle, deer, & dog tracks. At Mtn. Rest jct., road blacktopped to W. & E. Went W. to mill camp & up Barnes Mtn. (dirt) road (1 mi. dirt) to summit (4150'). Hard dirt, ungraded, but spots trailable. Back to saddle ½ mile W. of lookout, which seemed natural crossing. No puma tracks but found salamanders under fallen branches — 1 Batrachoseps + 3 Ensatina, 4000'. / Returned to Big Creek road & drove N. to Summit Cr. area campgr. Searched for tracks, walking. New blacktopped rd. leads up to Grand Bluffs — still under

[later escaped] Specs. c-2

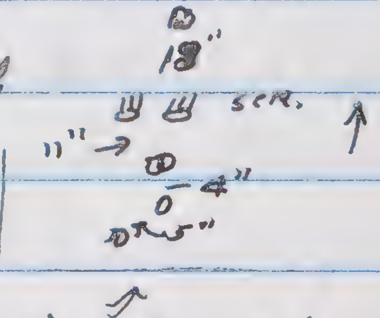
Journal

30 Apr. 1975 — Big Creek, Sierra N.F., Calif.

constr. Losing tracking roads to gravel & asphalt. Returned S. explored short tractor trails on foot. Back to Providence Creek sideroad & trail, on
W-2 sandy ground. Walked about 1 mile up, to 4000'; 1/4 mile before power & found puma track, small. Pad about 50 mm wide (front?), toes 70 mm. Toe #2 longer (9-11 mm) than adjacent toes & pointy. 19" stride when tracks in register. About 3 days old. (RF pad; F → H) Front about Hindft. track, 45 pad - 65 toes; set 55-70, 46-66 in 10 mm. soft sand. / Took

Cast 1/200 f11; Photos 8, +cw 9, 10 — black & white photos, tracks: #8 45-69, 52-73; plaster cast. #9 - 46-72, in loose sand; clawmarks, scale. #10 scratch made by 2 feet, w. claw marks, w. scale. Tracks leading to it made short steps, last double at one spot; soft anterior track 18" ahead, single or 2 in register. No urination spot or smell. At crest small high bank in trail.

doggy prints — Dog tracks, large, hound?; also on trail but not seen near scratch. Only puma there. / also took



K 16 scr. 17 sand tr. — Kodachromes =(#19-20) of scratch & sand tracks w. claws. Leopard-like pattern? Same cat as Bear Mtn. in Nov. '73? / I returned to Big Cr. rd. & drove to Nutmeg Cutoff & up it to Nutmeg Saddle, 4827: about 1/3 freshly graded.
6-4 Hound tracks, perhaps only one dog, prominent. 1-2 deer track sets on road constantly. At N. Saddle, ground hard. Snow across road started 1/4 mi. toward lookout. Returned to Haslett B. camp. / Cartrack 5, foot 2.

dog c-5 f-2

1 May 1975. Thurs. Calm. 1/10 cloudy. Talked w. Buss & Ron. Drove up Fence Mdw. road. Lower mile (?) graveled. Then graded freshly. Deer, coyote, and cattle tracks. Spotty tracking edges. Some stops to track. 4.5 mi. beyond Balch C.-Secata jct., too muddy for passage. Walked 1 mi. to Fence Mdw.
W-1 Camp area. Lookout road snowed in. Heard Solitaire (4800'), Steller jays, ravens, possibly Clark Nutcracker. Occas. fresh coyote droppings. Back to Secata Ridge & out toward helipad. Cattle present. Mostly hard,

Journal

1 May 1975. Big Creek, Sierra N.F., Calif.

but parts trackable. 1.4 mi. to Cattoner Ridge branch. 3.3 mi. to coyote road; jeep road descends to S. Cattle tracks, coyote, no puma sign. Returned to main road & to Haslett B camps. / Tracked by car - 5 mi., foot 1½.

dog c.5 w..

2 May 1975. Fri. Clear, calm. Drove to Trimmer R.S. to see Harrison, new resource officer. Saw Lophortyx, Sylvilagus, by road on way. Harrison ~~was~~ was walking off & turned me over to Art Rohrschaar(?), biologist. He had been working on deer. Gave me copy of deer migration routes on district. Jim Chudino (sp.), formerly of Big Pines, also in office. We discussed research problems. / Cattle use - 10,293 animal unit months on district; presently only in SW portion. Deer grazing units month available (105 lbs.) about 96 000. (G. Ashcroft said (hypothesis) improved meadow forage heavily used by cattle & then seen seed clearcuts, less grazed and more used by deer.) / I drove to Rodgers Crossing & took road along N. bank Kings to Levant Dike gate, 7.2 mi. Spots good for tracking. Cattle, deer, coyote tracks. Grass, live oaks, buckeye, poison oak. Rock outcrops upslope to N. Probably fair track route in summer. / Saw 1 ♂ sharp-shinned hawk. 100± cliff swallows milling under Rodgers Crossing bridge, doubtless nest building. At gate, walked on .5 mi. to fork up canyon to N, to mine. Other trail up Kings canyon, favored fishing area. I walked 1 mi. Deer & coyote tracks, but mostly too hard. Searched for salamanders under oaks - good places but found none. Returned back road. Drove out ~~Cap~~ Camp 4½ & Mill Flat Cr. road. Tracking in spots only. Continued to creek crossing 2 mi. S. of campground. No puma sign. Returned to Haslett. Checked S. sideroad at Cottonwood P. (2000').

Car: 1 mi.
f: 1 mi.
+ c 3

3 May 1975. Sat. "Caw" calls of Lophortyx near camp. Drove to Rush Cr. rd and drove up it, car tracking, but mostly ground too hard. Went about 3 mi before impassable mud hole. Storm approaching. Departed for Berkeley, via North Fork. Kirschoff ~~Kerschoff~~ Lake in area of live oaks, ceanothus, digger pines, grass - perhaps edge good puma area. North Fork had more con-

car 2

Tel.

Dinkey G.	841 - 3404
Trimmer	855 - 2405 - 06
Big Cr.	893 - 3311 - 12

GameW. - chuck Koons - Shaver - 893 - 3482.

Deer pop. data - Eureka - Charlie Brown. (Few now, said Jim C.)

Journal

3 May 1975 Madera Co. Calif.

ifers, tho much cut over. Bass Lake among small mixed conifers. Mariposa area cut over w. much regrowth in Digger Pine - live oak area. Showers + overcast. Returned to Berkeley, arriving evening.

9 May 1975. Friday. Departed Berkeley 10 a.m. & drove to Paso Robles and Mc Millan Ranch. Hills now browning. Wheat + barley green & patches brown. Saw no sheep nr. Camp Roberts. Lophortyx has nested but still can go [calling] groups - I saw bunch of 12. Ian predicts only moderate quail nesting success + about 50/50 fall age ratio. Bill Hamilton was here recently with student interested in quail behavior. UCSB ornithologist working on brood parasitism, partly on this ranch. / Much talk with Ian. Stayed at "my" shack. Big growth of Amsinckia in grain + ground patches. Much Bromus mollis this year. / 30°F. one night recently. Clear today + warm. Saw 2 Cotalus on road nr. McM. ranch.

10 May 1975. Saturday. Clear & cool. Drove via Navajo road to Queen Bee area. Tracked road in to Q. B.; on to Pine Mtn. Rd., & up to crest. One side car, 7 mph, occas. stops. Newly scraped & soft loam. Good tracking conditions, except Pine mtn. road mostly too hard. Tracks occasional deer, fox; many of dogs, quail. Heard Oreortyx calls. Parked .2 mi. N. on ridge. Walked S. toward Pine Spr. / Left car 10 10, 3150'. Mostly too hard or rocky, but some fair spots. ½ mile out, about 10 tracks large or young. Tracks est. 5 days old, two in dry puddle older. Hindfoot 57p - 76 - 82 toes. Photoed. Not sharp prints. / Cow carcass by road where left by USFS for condors. Ribs intact but meat gone. No feathers or carnivore scats. / Forefoot in dried mud 70 p, 90 t. Apparently same 7 as before. Occas fox, bobcat track, & droppings coyote or bobcat. Pine needle patches, but no scratches. Walked about 2½ mi. Mostly poor for tracks. As turned back 12 15. A gp. of 16 ravens milled above oaks. / Goldenbush & pink prickly phlox in full bloom at lower levels. / Back at truck 2:30. Hot, light breeze, flies.

Margin notes: [illegible] 5; tracks [illegible]; 200 + 8 photo →

Journal

10 May 1975. Pine Mtn., San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

Coulter pines have cones, but none eaten by tree squirrels on ridge. / Drove back down to Queen Bee, checked road 1/4 mi. to Willow Spr., back to McMillan Ranch

[margin: ...; Navajo - c-5; PM - c.-5; -west - 3] via ~~Navajo~~ Navajo road. / At alfalfa ranch, dead raccoon this morning; turkey vultures feeding on it evening. / About 5 mi. slow car tracking, one side, stops, + 3/5 on foot

[margin: spec.] (+ return). / Boyle King Snake [head captive] — picked up large one nr. Queen Bee Camp.

11 May 1975. Sunday. Clear, cool, breeze. To Avenales Ranch. Spot checks up

[margin: f - c - 3] Navajo grade road (mostly old blacktop, on W. side). Report from Redwind fonstn. area seems unlikely. Navajo road recently scraped — fair tracking (3 on 0-5 scale). Saw 4 Eutamias in digger pine — chaparral area. Quail (Loph.) paired. No people before 0800. Tracks dogs & people, however. Spot ches. for tracks on curves & soft spots. / Avenales gate, Mt. Quail calls. Saw ad. ♂ mallards in river, including ♀ w. 6 downy young. Avenales road hard dirt, partly graveled, blacktopped last few mi. before ranchhouse. / On road 1 mi. N.

[margin: [scraped] spec.] ranchhouse, small Lampropeltis boylii coll. / Most pastures still green. Saw one fawn (Sam saw one on his ranch a few days ago). Browning grass on SW slopes higher up. / Drove toward PG&E line. Many cattle; dirt hard packed. Took turnoff toward Kennel Cr. & Branch Mtn. Spots excellent tracking,

[margin: c-4] fine sand. Many coyote tracks. Car tracked w. stops at good spots. / at ~~Bu~~ Buckhorn gate, carcass of bobcat, dried; took skull; exam. for sex = ♀. Walked toward Branch Mtn. Roads scraped a few days ago, tracking good in spots. Went 1/2 mile W. on 17E05? Part way up Branch M. rd. / Talked w. man & boy, on horses, from Buckhorn. Man (= Lopez, foreman) said saw 1 small lion last yr. He thought the lookout (♀) had also seen one. Said he saw 2 condors last year. Roads lead

[margin: c - 3; f - 3 (+ ret.)] to Branch Cr. & up to ridge S. of Branch Mtn. / Returned to Avenales Ranch. Car tracked to American Canyon camp — good fine sand loam mostly. Saw

[margin: c - 2 (+ ret.)] deer tracks & 1 deer. / Kodachr. — coyote tr. — new film KX. = 20

12 May 1975. Stayed at McMillan Ranch. Conferred w. Sam, worked on notes.

Mike Lefevre - New Cuyama - report on <u>Cutophytes</u>

Bob Stone - Sta. Margarita - spends much time on USFS trails.

Randy Merrick - Pine C. station.

Lopez - foreman on Buckhorn, dark, 35± yrs.

Journal

12 May 1975. Nr. Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co.

Telephoned Grinnan & arranged trip tomorrow. Also Randy Long - biologist, now at Chuchupate R.S.

Called Cl. McM. - recently back from San Pedro Martir - said no sign condors, tho some locals still thought they had seen them. Poor food & wildlife at this season.

13 May 1975. Drove to Santa Maria where met Hardy G. at 0730. To Santa Barbara Cany. Co. In his USFS truck, drove to Cuyama V. & up Santa Barbara Canyon rd. He said good Crotaphytus population near jct. this road & hwy. 166 on flat ground. Saw several antelope ground squirrels, including young, in lower country. | Too fast to track up S.B. Canyon, but fair condition except for many cattle. Took road to S.B. Potrero. Said blocked to W., near McPherson Pk. Drove to ridge between Logan & Cliff Canyons. Hiked about 2 miles out ridge to a rocky point where could see top of falls in Falls Canyon. | Large meadows of wheatgrass mixed w. annuals, where brush cleared & perennial grass planted 10± yrs. ago. Saw Mt. Quail & heard them frequently. | Dick Smith & M. Montague (our radio not working.) on Indian Creek side of Big Pine Mtn. Watching for condors, as 3 seen in area several times this year at midday. We had seen Samon Pk., Big Pine, & W. to Mission Pine & beyond. Arrived at peak about 11 a.m. About 1130 we saw

Tr. W-2 one condor soaring betw. Samon & Big Pine - up & down much, as wind about 20 mph, sometimes in canyons behind ridges. May have crossed E. near Madulce Saddle. Saw ravens, redtailed hawks, ash-throated flycatcher + white-throated swifts. Saw two golden eagles flying high. Few soaring birds seen. | About 1 p.m. I left & returned to ridge to walk road. Grinnan stayed on point. I walked on ridge road to W. Partly too hard for tracking & strong wind obscured tracks,

W. - 2 (+ return) but occas. coyote track seen, & occas. 1 deer track line. Bobcat tracks. Also chaparral, grass, scrub oaks near road. 1459 main gate. Continued W. to opposite corral & house in a grassy (Salisb. Pot.) flat to N. (= Lamar Johnson?). Saw 3 Oreortyx 5 m. out in grass from brush. Heard many calls in brush & tracks frequent. Lophortyx also in this area, about 5000'. | Back at truck

Journal

13 May 1975 Wedn. Sierra Madre, Santa Barbara Co, Calif.

at 1640. Saw 3 ravens soaring & chasing in groups. Saw 1 turkey vulture - only one seen up here today. Patches snow on N. side of Big Pine Mtn. Wind from SE continued. I walked E. a mile but tracks poor from wind (+ a truck).

w-1

Greiman reached me 6 p.m. Said about 2 pm. he had seen 3 condors near Big Pine Mtn, at least one crossing to S. side. He is a good condor spotter! No further confirmation of possible nesting nr. Whiteledge Pk. trail. / We drove back to Santa Maria.

14 May 1975. At Colson Canyon camp, among live oaks. Ground hard, & road old gravel & spots old oil, so poor tracking. Fog in morning. Valley & Mtn. quail calls. Drove E. over crest 1100' & down slope, where spots trackable. Down to La Brea road, also rocky, & to Goodchild Ranch. On road, tracks toads, raccoon, bobcat, quail. / G. ranch in bottom, surrounded by steep slopes, brush & rocks & live oaks. / Met "Bobby" Goodchild, good natured, about 55 yrs, raised in area. Charlie Tant used to stay there (w. G. parents) & often camped near Hiawatha camp, up La Brea Canyon. G. said more lions when pigs introduced, less after pigs reduced. He thought no increase last 10-15 yrs. He thought possibly 3 or 4 pumas use La B. canyon. His ranch only 1400 acres. Once about 1967, lion killed 400 lb. calf - Ray Nelson called in - he trapped the cat (147? lbs.). Deer - formerly numerous, now comparatively rare. Houndsmen - many in canyon on N. Forest nearby. Also much destruction of his signs by shooting them. Bee colonies up canyon, w. electric fences to repel bears. Bears destroyed posts. Said had traveled much in these hills in lifetime & saw only one lion. Tant hunted on foot. G. said T. took lion on Figueroa Mtn. ridge & down to Los Cruces (present highway), tho Tant had said (told me last nov.?) none at Figueroa. / I drove slowly, 5-7 mph, up La Brea canyon, w. frequent stops to walk up & down road. G. house, odom. 31.7 (= 0). 1.2 mi., past last house. Tracks bobcats, raccoon, occas. deer near creek.

t. - c - 4 mi.

Journal

14 May 1975. La Brea Canyon, Santa Barbara Co.

Rocky steep slopes both sides. +2.2 mi, trailer + windmill. +3.3, road sandier, better tracking (very good), about 100 m. wide bottom. Many bobcat tracks. +4.3, tracks of large bear. +4.7, bee hives; more bear tracks. Mt. Quail calls frequent. No cattle above here, but road little used & partly grassed over; but sandy spots for tracks. Bear + occas. 1 deer.

h.
c – 6 (+ ret.)
w – 1

+8.3, yucca, ceanothus, manzanita, w. live oaks bottom. +9 mi., Chokeludo's Camp, where Eric + I stayed in July 1973. Continued on .8 mi, until could see Sierra Madre crest road about 4 mi. distant, then turned back. 6.7 mi. from Chokeludo to windmill trailer. Back to house & gate. Only one possible old puma dropping found, no scratches. Looked for salamanders in La Brea canyon – no luck; too dry? Small (2") fish in creek. / I drove toward Miranda Pine, spot tracking (5± stops / mi.). 2.6 mi. to Colson jct., 4 mi to Jesse Flat camp, 5.1 to Wagon Flat camp. Then up Pine Canyon road. Hard, but trackable spots sides, especially on curves. 10.5 from ranch, jct. Buckhorn Ridge trail – broad & perhaps good for tracking (2 wheel coyote trail). another mile to a crest + jct. w. Miranda–Pine Canyon road. Saw several coveys of 6–10 Lophortyx, as if not paired. Road to Miranda recently scraped. Spots trackable – Bear tracks at Pine Flat Picnic area. Little car traffic – perhaps only 1 today. Heard coyote call. Saw kingsnake (boylii) near Pine Flat (3000'), on road thru chaparral. Continued up S.M. ridge to 1½ mi. from Miranda jct. Cool eve, 1/10 cirrus. Wind died.

c. 10

[margin:] ng Pine Mt. 5/13; S.M. road 5/14 eve.

15 May 1975. Thurs. Fog in Cuyama valley; hazy above fog. Fog also in canyons to S. S.M. road mostly dried mud, poor for tracks, tho bobcat + dog tracks in mud. Wind came up – about 20 mph. from SE. Mt. Quail calls. / I slowly drove down road from Miranda Pine to hwy. 166, 1500', 9 miles. Lower half mostly oak-grassland slopes. Occas. trackable spots. Then took Branch Creek road to NW, about 2 mi. to Big Rocks, outcropping

c – 2

Journal

15 May 1975. Nr. Big Rocks, San Luis Obispo Co.

of sandstone & conglomerate, many holes, steep hill. Many potential nest holes, & Landy Merrick said eagle nest w. 2 nestlings nearby. Road under construction

to KX → Branch
by USFS; heavy equipment, trucks, ~~dust~~ dust. Putting cement & oil on road. Thru oaks, brushy hills, other cliffs. (Gresman had seen same bird here last

✓
fall.) 2.6 mi. in from FS gate, side road to Kennel Canyon Trail & Branch Mtn. road (4), 4 w-d. 2.9 mi in, FS gate again. Road dusty but many

–
cattle tracks; also bobcat, coyote. Road up Canyon 35 (▽ sign B17) at + 4.0 mi. Construction ~~ceased~~ closed before that. / I continued on in canyon, which resembled Kennel Cr. on Avenales Ranch. + 4.5, Paradise Spr. road, ▽ B 21. Good dust at start; quail & deer tracks; checked 1/4 mi. + 5.0 mi, Double Springs trail to W. Road ungraded, often rocky, thru canyon bottom. Conglomerate cliffs: 100± cliff swallow nests on cliff 50' above stream. Occas. tracking spots. + 7.6, Corral (Cable Corral?) & Logan R. trail to

c-5
W. Road then up side canyon w dry chamise steep slopes, road too (1500')

f-1/2
rocky + hard for good tracks. Continued to + 9.1, then turned back. 1½ mi to corral in bottom + 8' wide clear slow creek. Tracking im-

–
proved about 1/2 mi. W. of Soto Spr. / Took dirt road up Canyon 35. Passable to passenger cars, as recently scraped. Tracking in spots at dips + sides. Chaparral slopes. Gate (unlocked) 2.1 mi. up. Another 1.5 mi L Branch Mtn. road, where flushed a golden eagle (ad.) from ground; no prey found.

avenales' rider
another .7 mi. to locked gate to Avenales R., in Kennel Cr. + 2.1 to b. wire gate, 1.2 more to PG&E road (FS gate to PG&E road = 3.4 mi.). Then 1.4 mi. to

e-8
PGE road to W., + .2 to wooden gate, around houses, then ~~3.5~~ 3.9 to Machesna trail, + 3.5 more to Amer. Canyon, and 1.9 more to Avenales Gate. (9.5 mi from gate to ranchhouses.) 3.4 more to Pozo Rd.; + 4.3 to Black Mtn. rd. (opposite Navajo Ranch). Fair dust now on E. side crest. Black Mtn. road 8.3 mi. to hwy. 58 from Navajo Ranch. Returned to McMillan Ranch. Discussion w. Lane.

Ronnie Graves - laundsman - maintenance man, [illegible]

Hwy. 58 to B. Mt. pass 5 mi. (dirt & light gravel)
+ 3.3 mi. to Navajo Ranch
(rough blacktop)

Randy Long - Frazier Pk. R.S.
805 ~~245~~-2731

Journal

16 May 1975. Fri. San Luis Obispo Co.

High fog; cleared about 0900. Talked w. Sam about April F+G bird report. Sam said 4 Lophortyx nests found so far, one w. 17 eggs. Two uncovered from above, in barley fields. On next ranch w., barley now browning. Talked w. Steve Rothstein, UCSB, working on nest parasitism, doing some nest experiments on ranch. / Returned to Berkeley.

22 May 1975. Thurs. Drove from Berkeley to Shandon via hwy. 101, with Suzanne K. At I. McMillan Ranch, talked w. Sam about rodent poisoning, kit foxes. He reported co. agric. comm. says not allowed (by F+G?) to poison within 1 mile of kit fox den. / Lophortyx - hatched eggs found but no young seen. Mating has waned - few "squill" calls, no "cow" calls. Sam thinks that breeding has ceased for the year, tho food adequate. / In draw to E. of house, saw raven (bird on) nest + Tyto (at least 2 downy young) nests 6' apart, another Tyto nest 50 m. to w., + Sam says another nearer to house + one in feed shed - 4 known Tyto nests in about 1/2 mile. / Saw kingbirds (Western?) on wires.

23 May 1975. Fri. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

Departed Mc. M. Ranch + drove via 58 + Navajo Camp to Pozo. Spent checking in NF; some deer tracks. Many dog tracks. At Pozo Sta., talked w. Blake, Trotter, Stone, another. / Telephoned Grinnan - he said last wk. Dick Smith group saw 4 condors incl. one juv., one sub-ad., both seen fed, + 2 adults in Bluff Camp area. / Phoned ranger at Frazier Pk. for permission to use road near Big Pine Mtn. / Bob Stone marked maps, showing puma track locations in Figueroa Mtn. area + w. of Divide Pk. / We drove slowly up Hi

Spot ch. 3.5 Mtn. Rd., 3 1/2 mi. to saddle. Good substrate in spots (rd. cond. 3-5). Dog, bobcat, quail tracks, + cattle. Saw doe + 2 fawns running on road. Deaf small

Journal

23 May 1975 Hi Mtn., S.L. Obispo Co, Calif.

Duck; ribs intact, but Cathartes feathers near. / At pass, where 4 roads meet, tracks large bear, dogs, 2 deer. / Spot tracked to west mi. LO,

spot - 2.5 2 1/2 mi. - scraped but only spots good. / Drove out Little Falls Spr. road 1 mile - too hard + rocky for good tracks. Also saw near LO tower (now personed). Returned to below Hi Mt. camp + down Trout Cr. road a mile - good

c - 1 tracking surf. Parked nr. corral + hiked S. on Trout Creek trail. Went along

— creek under live oaks, mainly, + grassy patches. Good surface, but many cattle tracks. About 1 1/2 mi. Then trail ascended slope toward chap-

w - 2 arral + yucca. Soon became grassed over + we lost trail. About 2 1/2 mi. afoot, then turned back. Flushed a Lophortyx and found a dozen or more tiny chicks in grass + sunken at base of oak, 1500'. Saw one large Geococcyx near them. Saw 2 deer. / Returned to car + back to Hi Mtn. saddle. Walked up Iranica Mtn. ridge trail (motorcycle + foot)

w - 3 for 35 min., about a mile, climbing 450' vert. Good tracking surface (4-5) but only about 30%. Deer tracks, bobcat, many quail, one large bear. Many bear tracks at damp site where pond had dried. Also raccoon,

day: deer tracks. No puma sign. Good trail for future tracking. / Return-

c - 3

w - 3 ed to L. McM. ranch. He said 85°F. today. S. S.L. Ob. Co.

Sun.

25 May 1975. Departed McMillan Ranch early + drove to Avenales Ranch,

spot ch. to Kennel Creek road. Last 3.5 mi., good dust in spots, spot checked from

4 car. Coyote tracks, + many of quail. Then locked USFS bath + drove .8 mi.

= 0.0 tracked from car +

to jct. w. Branch Mtn. LO road. Spot checks. Then down Canyon 35, 1.4 mi.

c - 3.5 to pipe gate (open). Quail, bobcat, deer; about 50% trackable dust (+).

= 0.0

+ 3.4 mi., hit Big Rock road, hard dirt. Canyon 35, in dry chaparral, narrow. Bottom road w. creek, live oaks. Headed S., tracking spots. +.9 mi., road recently oiled. + 1.1, USFS gate, unlocked. Spots good dust. + 1.5, Kennel Cr. road to E. Many cattle near road. + 1.9 mi., on crest opposite Big

Avalanche [illegible] c/g	0.0
PGE gate	+ 1.2
Sheep Cr.	+ 2.[illegible]
Kennel Cr. rd	3.0
FS gate to Brush Mtn.	+ 6.4
jct. LO rd.	7.2
gate on 35	8.5
Big Rock rd.	10.6
S. to USFS gate	11.7
Kenn. Cr. Tr.	12.1
Big R. [illegible]	12.5
Rd 13 7, W	12.8
13 11, NE	13.4
USFS gate	~~14.8~~ 14.5
Hwy 166.	14.8 = 0.00
To [illegible] Rd.	6.9
TO Whiteaker R.	14.6
New Cuy	27.9
SBC. turn, 9N11	42.1

Journal

25 May 1975. S. Cent. S.L. Obispo Co., Calif.

Rocks. These conspicuous sandstone rocks have many potholes; as [illegible] good,
tr. c-- cond. 4 & 5, in spots. Walked road 1/4 mi. & back; moderate deer tracks. + 2.2,
w-1/2 4 wd road B7 to W., uphill, deep dust. About 3/4 of main road now oiled.
+ 2.8, B11 to NE, up. + 3.9, USFS gate, unlocked. Oil has spoiled ~~much~~ much
— good tracking road. No puma sign found. / Drove E. on hwy. 166. 7 mi.
to Chimineas Ranch gate, 7.7 mi. more to White Oaks Rd. to S. On to New
Cuyama & took road ~~14~~ 15± mi. beyond toward Ventura. (Nr. Cuyama,
hundreds of acres of alfalfa.) Saw antelope ground squirrels. / Took
side road 9N11 to Santa Barbara (= 0.0) Canyon. + 1.4 mi. across dry river bed
to cattle guard. 6 mi. to Red Cliffs w cliff swallows nesting at Reyes Ranch.
Road graveled, poor for tracks, but gravel decreased & spotty ford by
c-R USFS locked gate at + 11 mi. Mt. Quail calls. Desert[?] in bottom. Jun-
iper bushes on slopes. Next gate at 15.1 mi. Too much cattle & human
— ~~tracking~~ traffic for tracking. Memorial Day weekend - at least 25 cars parked below
locked gates. + 15.8 mi., road fork - took S. fk. toward (= 0.0) Big Pine Mtn. Went
c-N 1.1 mi. to gate, locked; just beyond USFS trailer (willow flat) flat. Chaparral hills, steep ridge.
Thru gate and 1.6 mi. up road. Dozens of human footprints, ~~but~~ no recent cars.
w- Parked, & departed 1410 to walk on up road. Ridge, sidehills, saddles, then chap-
arral, live oaks, manzanita, ceans. Pseudotsuga. Good for tracking except for
human tracks. 1500, about 1/4 mi. before reaching Chokecherry Spring, found
track puma tracks in fine sand at inside edge curve. Loose, so poor measures.
Approx. pad 47 wide, toes 75, track 80 long. ♀ or juv. ♂? 5500'. Center
heel lobe advanced; pad short but wide. Road blocked about 1/8 mi. before
spring (& trough water). Live oak sidehill. Then on up sidehill under
Q. chrysolepis (some are [illegible]) to crest, where Madulce Ridge trail
takes off, about 2 mi. from spring. Then on down on S. side of
ridge to Alamar Saddle, where a camp & trails start down [illegible]

Journal

25 May 1975. Sierra Madre, Santa Barbara Co., Calif.

Heath Camp 5 1/2 mi. arrived 1725. Roads impassable to cars - many fallen boulders. Again found puma tracks, judged the same by shape and measurements (1 1/2 mi. from Madulce ~~camp~~ crest). / Coulter pines, & many needle ground; no puma scratches or droppings found. ~~Continued on~~ walked back to Chokecherry + car, + back thru gate to camp on ridge (= Willow Canyon?). Walked approx. 6 mi., + return. Mosquitoes in eve. Heard night calls - poorwill? Mt. Quail called evening.

w - 6 o.w.

26 May 1975. Departed ridge + went back to SB Potrero road, ~~start~~ car ~~start~~ tracking 1 mi. = 0.00. Clear warm day. Good substrate but much tracked by people. Drove slowly, checking road for tracks, toward McPherson Pk. +1.4 mi., edge of meadow area, many cattle, but tracking fair (one side car). +1.9, start of Heath Camp trail to Sisquoc. Checked 1/2 mile - heavy human use. Bobcat + dog tracks. +3.0, cattle guard. Grassland nr. road. +4.3, pipe gate, unlocked. Hd. of Logan Canyon. Mostly grassland slopes w. chaparral spots. Cattle. +6.3, pipe gate. +7.6, Salisbury Potrero rd. - Lamar Johnson place. +9.0, gate. Talked w. 3 horsemen who had gone down Judell, down Sisquoc, back up Jackson trail. One interested wildlife - said no lion or bear sign, few deer - many more deer in former yrs. +9.6, sandstone outcrops (Vaqueros form.) (= Montgomery Pt. - Lion Cny.) in grassland; many potholes. Spectacular cliffs in canyon to N, in Lion Canyon. But no puma sign on road. +10.8 cattle guard. No cattle tracks beyond. +11.6, Painted Rock campground. Grassland mostly; one small sandstone cliff (100 m. long, 20 high) w. 100± cliff swallows nesting. Sign - McPherson LO 8 mi. (Sweetwater Trail 3 1/2 mi. to E.). +11.8, Jackson Trail to Sisquoc River (6 mi.). Beyond, no cattle tracks but too hard & rocky for tracks - better later in summer when more traffic or camping, along chaparral sidehills. +17.3, trail N. to Alamo camp (4 1/2 mi.). +19.4, locked USFS gate. Thru it and .8 mi. on to McPherson Pk. LO. / Drove w. on Sierra Madre ridge road, but rocky & not

car tr. -

- 25 May - Madulce fr. Alamar
- May 26 - hd Logan 7 ... + Bay P.

C-12

Journal

26 May 1975 - Mon.; memorial day   N. Santa Barbara Co, Calif.

c-2 yet scraped, the recent car travel. Poor for trucks. Took White Oaks road down to N; many fallen rocks on road. LO to station, 14.3 miles. Then paved road 7 mi. to hwy. 166. West w. to Chimineas gate, & north thru it up dry canyon w. yuccas, saw raven nest (on nest) in cliffs. To wide barley fields & cattle range of Chimineas Ranch (8 mi. - good dirt road). Looked for Claude Arnold, old timer; not in, but talked w. daughter. Two years ago lion seen twice near houses (25 day interval?) and once nr. Gillam Spr. (Carrizo Ranch?)

c-3 None since. She said that - Garcia of Spanish Ranch, S. side Cuyama R., should have info on lions there. Miss Arnold said they had been proud to have a lion - did not like them killed - favored trapping & transport when harmful. Claude would have more info; also on condors. Girls knew of no condor sightings during last year. / From ranch, drove north 8 mi. to locked gate on edge Carrizo Plains. Then road 3.2 mi. to c/g and entry sign (Chimineas, Arnold, Buckhorn ranches), 2.6 mi. more to co. rd. 258, paved, near PG&E line, thence N. to California Valley (6 more mi.) and on to Simmler, thence w. on hwy. 58. About 1000 sheep in one flock W. of Simmler. Continued on to Sam McMillan ranch. / Bob Stading - horseman ~~on Sie~~ nr Montgomery Potrero said had seen 3 lion tracks below Beartraps #1 and #2 near Oyosa (last yr.?). S.L.Obispo Co.

27 May 1975. Tues. Worked on notes & equipt. at S McM. Ranch, then to Elden McM. Ranch & talked with him. He recalled report by "Buck" Kester of lion seen in hills W. of Cholame Flat, yrs. ago. We drove N. thru Palo Prieto canyon and saw one golden eagle (yesterday saw one in air at Springs near Chalk Creek, nest area). Then on east past Kettleman City to Fresno and on to Trimmer area, where kept trailer. Very dry there now, but snow visible on crests above 6000 ft. level. Camped at Big Creek.

Journal

28 May 1975. Wed. N. Kings River, Fresno Co., Calif.

Clear calm morning. Up Fence Mdw. rd. & took Big Creek fork. Sandy & cattle marked but trackable edges. Spot checked (5/mi) to Rutherg c/o rd. (2.8 mi.) & on to Duff Camp (5 mi.). at Mtn. rd. jct. (6 mi.), road oiled, & oiled on to Sawpeak Saddle & toward Rush Creek (dog tracks). So tracked S. to summit Bauer Mtn., but unscraped & mostly too hard. Back to foot Providence Cr. trail & up dirt road a mile to washout, then walked, starting 3800' elev. Good tracking sandy trail. 8 scats. 1 or 2 deer, 1 coyote, 1 bobcat. No puma sign. About 1 mile to Duff Creek (4000 ft) crossing among pines & oaks. Explored side trail to 5 1/2 mi. Up from creek 1/2 mile, to ~~4300~~ 4400'. Coyote, bobcat, tracks & 2-3 deer. One Sciurus seen. Mt. Quail calls. Returned to Big Creek road & back to camp. / Packed for trailer haul to Markwood Mdws. Went via paved roads thru Trimmer & Tollhouse. Road to Dinkey Cr. had recent piles snow at sides. Very green grass. Shaver Lake level low, much bottom exposed. Put trailer at Pollard Flat, as last year. At chickaree nest hole, saw no activity except two Eutamias on trunk near it. / Walked among snow patches & brush patches. Heard Mtn. quail and saw running pair. Heard or saw no chickarees, & no other chipmunks, no ground squirrels. At Two red-headed sapsuckers on fir trunk. / Trail to S. of hwy. on Summit Cr. had fresh coyote track, 1 bear, 2-3 deer tracks – went about a mile on trail at 5900± ft. / Stayed at Markwood Mdw.

29 May 1975. SW Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

Clear, cool. No chickaree activity seen near old nest. Mt Quail calls prominent. Fish & Game crew had trailer here (Markwood Mdw.) but did not show up. Tracking poor. Returned to Berkeley. To Lake Co., Calif.

7 June 1975. Saturday. Departed noon & drove via St. Helena & Clear Lake to

Lee Pluth

Lakep. ~~1006~~ 257 Hillcrest Rd.

263-4813

Hensley - Up.L. -

Elk Mtn Rd.

275-2469

Journal

7 June 1975 Lake Co., Calif.

Lucerne, & up Bartlett Springs road. About 150 mi. to turnoff; 15 mi. to B.S.
c-1 Dirt road w. light gravel; parts good dust. Camped at edge chaparral (grassland-oaks below) at 2500'. Heard Oreortyx. Road good dust here, but traffic disturbed.

8 June 1975. Drove on toward Bartlett S. Checked dust at corners – no traffic early morning, some at night. Occas. tracks one deer. Up to summit in yellow pines.
w-1/2 Then more gravelly on E slope, past Sawmill Flat to Ruppert Ridge jeep trail, 3600', 10 mi.
c-1 from hwy. 20 / Drove 1/2 mile out – gravelly road on ridge in old burn – short veg. w. occas. pines; saw one sugar pine, apparent nutmeg. Walked out 1/2 mile more. Tracks 2 deer. Old dog tracks in mud. No scats. To NE, hills appeared covered w. brush, occas. patches young pines – cut & burned long ago. Ridge continues to Pine Mtn. Poor tracking; better after summer traffic. / Returned to hwy. 20 and drove on to Upper Lake (pear & walnut orchards). Visited Clint Hensley, about 70 yrs., who lived just beyond ranger sta. All life in area. Formerly worked for USFS, covered many trails. Had hunted pumas & killed three. Had photos hunt & a tanned skin in pan Co. He was friendly & talkative. Blamed coyotes for deer losses. Said puma may kill wantonly, kill one deer, cover, & get another. Best place for tracks along Cache Creek, esp. Twin Valley north of Walker Canton. Also mentioned Deer Creek to Copper Butte Cr. areas (w. of Snow Mtn.), Crabtree Hot Spr., Bear Cr., Hough Springs, Spanish Cr. Thought 6 or 7 cats now in the "whole region" – presumably including Goat Mtn. & Snow Mtn. Not sure if stay there. He said relative told him lion on water co. property near Calistoga. Also that lions had spread toward coast, w. of Willits, probably because of deer increase near sheep ranches. Said Ruppert Ridge cover too short, burned, for good lion habitat. / I drove N. to Middle Creek & Howard Mill area, paved & well traveled, then off on 18N01 toward Bear Cr. on dirt road, partly graveled. Crossed clear creek & hit Bear Cr. jct. Many campers to there. Then took road to N, 18N04. About 6 mi. from jct., crossed Deer Creek, which Hensley mentioned. Big ice [illegible], thick, oaks, scrub

	Rds. N-75	od.	mi.
	Brushy C. -	67.4	0.0
		8.8	
	L. Anderson R		
		9.2	
	Up. Anders,		
Gl/Lake	Co. line	70.2	
	Sh. Mt. LO	71.0	
	Loop rd - closed	2.0	
	Pearrie Rd(1mi)	2.5	
	Gap	3.2	
	Turn to LG camp	3.9	6.5

Journal

8 June 1975. N. Lake Co., Calif.

oaks, & small conifers upslope. Thick cover. Road along sidehill, crossing small clear creeks. Road widened & more graveled (worked on from N end?), so
C-2 tracking not good yet - poorer than later last summer. After Skeleton Glade trail, tall trees, black oaks, conifers, shade, but still mod. gravel (Lower Nye camp 22.3 mi. from Pillsbury Lake rd. jct.) - tall yellow pines, second growth, + openings. Arrived noon. | Drove on slowly, uphill, for 6 miles - too early for good dust. Into open stand yellow pines - biologically dull & quiet, but people rare (saw 2 cars). Up Summit Rd. 2 mi. to end, & hiked a mile
C-1 W-2 toward Snow Mtn. Rare deer tracks, no squirrels. Saw 1 deer. No freshly eaten pinecones. Many Sceloporus graciosus, some < 1" long. Little under-growth - open conifers. Snow 50% on top of mountain. Back to road Toward Low Gap. Saw 2 Citellus lateralis, 5000'. About 4 mi. to L G. camp in black oaks, yellow pines. Deer tracks there - several. and saw 2. Walked Bear Wallow trail 1 mi. - along contour - tracked 2(?) days ago by m'cycles.
W-1 Deer & quail tracks; saw 1 mtn. quail, heard several. Good tracking route. | Drove N to Anderson Ridge rd. - upper one blocked by fallen tree at < 1 mi., and too hard for tracks; lower one also too hard - no grading & rare use.
C-2 Brushy C. road better but still poor - better later. So returned to Low Gap camp (5200') - Spots snow on Skeleton Mtn. Saw 2 deer on road (1 ♂, antlers)

9 June 1975. Clear; light breeze. Hiked down Cold Creek trail, leaving 5000' road at head 0820. Upper ½ mile, trail solid deer tracks, mostly heading down (W). 0905, crossed a fast clear rocky creek, deep shade. Mt. quail calls above, & Sceloporus graciosus frequent (some bulging, or w. eggs). About 2 miles down, crossed 2' clear stream. In 20' black oaks, saw two Sciurus. Some tall Douglas firs. Ground often leaf-covered for a few hundred yards, but much ground visible for puma scratches, + bare tracking spots 5 to 10% generally. Fresh droppings, apparently coyote. Later another, & bear dropping w. grass content, horse-like. At 1050,

Journal

9 June 1975 NE Lake Co., Calif.

KR 5 → Sheetiron. about 3½ mi. down, took photo up canyon; top Sheetiron Mtn. shown. (Hull Mtn. visible downstream.) 1115, trail hit stream – fast, rocky, 6-10' wide, clear, 2900'. (Here w. Cole and June 1974.) Explored flat floodplain, including sand, to ¼ mi. downstream.

w - 5 (+ rat.) Ocean. deer tracks, no dog, bear, or puma. / Started back up 1210, slowly. Reached Low Gap 1515 – about 5 mi. each way. / Rested. Then went down Open Ridge road about 2 mi., to where washed out – spot checks; deer tracks. / Drove N. to Long Ridge rd., over 1 mile long, 19 N 33. Good potential, but gravel covers dust now. Many deer

c 2 tracks at start. Drove out 1 mi. – walked ½. / Inspected start of Recovina road, similar but at least 2 mi. / Drove to Brushy Camp road + camped. 5700' A fox (?) in perhaps loud about 10 p.m. In 100' yellow pine + other conifers. S. Glenn Co., Calif.

10 June 1975. Tuesday. Clear, light breeze, (100° in Chico-Red Bluff). Drove out Brushy Camp Ridge rd., along ridgetop. Some cont. ruling, spots trackable. Fresh deer tracks – several. N side Sheetiron Mtn., and Ridge is conifers, perhaps poorer for pumas than S. slopes. Mt. Quail calls. 5700'. About 2.8 mi. out,

ack road to N. side ridge, lower. Many areas needles or oak leaves for scratches. / 0815, 5400', road hit ridge again + turned sharply back to R – on curve in road dirt, puma track, small, perhaps made last night. Pad lean 48, toe 67, 13" stride upslope. Center lobe 2 mm. advanced, full width (not narrow); ⌋ – medial margin straight. Toe #1 ovate (#1). R Other, Another pad 47-48 mm; l. 70. One 48-70, 75 l. Poor definition. Took

1/125 - 8

KR 5 47 p leads. + b&w photos. Then 3.7 mi. from Poc. Cut road. Mod gravel + rare

6 46-67, 75 travel so tracking sand. 2 – < 5% trackable. S slopes thick scrub oaky

7 site manzanita. 5200'; on ridge saw a ? w deer 3 points, + yrl. + 4.7 mi.,

8 w same 20-11 ridge turns N.; descends. + 5.3 hit Hayward Cr. rd, 19 N 08, 4900'. More car

9 10 tracks. Coyote scat + tracks. 4700' – bear tracks. Mt. Q. calls.

KR 9 → Hull M., w. and. R. Ed R rd. Conifers, brush in openings, manzanita. + 6.3, white boundary post. 47.3, opposite Anderson Rd. down N aspect slope. More bear

Journal

Mendocino N.F.

10 June 1975. 5, Glenn Co., Calif.

tracks. Road descended. Some logs fallen on road. Parked + 200' (+ 7.6) & walked 1/2 mile to end road, at 3800'. Deer tracks rare here, but one at 3700'. A truck had gotten beyond road barrier - possibly all the way thru to Eel R. Walked another 3/4 mi. down, to 3400'. Several coyote droppings (more than higher), 2 fresh. To 3400'. Returned to car (noon). / Returned to Poe Cr. road via Hayward Cr. road (more gravel; on contour), 5.2 mi. from jct. to main road. Drove 1.5 mi. S. to Lower Anderson R. rd. & out it - broad, fine gravel, no travel yet. In soft spots, deer & coyote tracks. Poor tracking road now + 5.3 mi; hit ridge + 4 w.d. road toward lookout. Continued on 2.4 mi. Gravelly, poor tracking. Deer tracks. No large scats seen. Returned to main road, 24N02. / Drove to Benny Flat loop. Saw bobcat run thru open conifers. Around loop, about 2 mi.; 2 1 mi. spurs not checked. Too hard for tracks. / On to Summit Rd. jct. Slowly down 6 mi. to Lower Nye camp, 3400'; spot checking - too little traffic for dust. Saw Eutamias at 3700'. Bear tracks on road, & deer. Continued on road. Opposite Hummingbird Cr., apparent old track, pad 55, old ? size. Outer edge road. / Camped on Thistle Glade. No traffic save at night. Mt. Quail calls. (no chicks seen yet.)

11 June 1975. Departed 0540. Tracks deer, bear, fox on road. Glimpsed a black mammal run, tail high - possibly puma. Deer Creek - trail up mtn. (Big Spr.); & down too (Hensley said good site.) Then road poorer for tracks, more gravel, & much more improved after Rice Creek. I took road to Crabtree Hot Spr.; after left Fir Root rd., 16 mi. to Bartlett Spr., 17N04, dirt, thru cutover forest w. 30' slim pines mixed w. manzanita. Little travel. 2.8 to Crabtree, 2400', where clear creek, rocks, in bottom chaparral, scrub oak, Digger pine slopes. Another .8 mi. to French R. rd. Then more gravel. Other side roads. + 10.5 mi. from Fir Root rd., side road from W. & entered deep yellow dust, much truck tracking, 30' wide, & cattle tracks - already used

Journal

11 June 1975 NE Lake Co., to Berkeley, Calif.

0930 today. Hound tracks. Met man chain sawing - he told me of lost hound - said Wasson & Pleith from Lakeport hunted dogs there; also "Garrison" pile driver saw. 5.4 mi. from dirt to Bartlett Spr. Good tracking when no traffic. / Thru Bartlett Spr. (old resort, a few tourist houses, little devel.) and toward E. down Cache Cr. 3 old deserted houses (good for bats?) about 7 mi. out, 2 mi. before ~~Cr.~~ bridge. Much new road on N. bank, and newly flooded reservoir in Little Indian Valley. Then along Complexion creek thru chaparral hills, dry & rocky. 17 mi. from Bartlett to Walker Ridge, BLM recreation area. On E. to Bear Valley, flat grazing land, & S to Wilbur Spr., Capay (hwy. 16), & back to Berkeley, arriving 4 p.m.

15 June 1975. Monday. With Cil, departed 10 a.m. from Berkeley for Siskiyou Co. via hwy. 5, Redding, Scott Mtn., & Salmon River. Stopped at Redding and visited Jim Gordon, forest wildlife biologist. He was especially interested in findings that would influence policy on the N.F. But had little info to contribute. Gave him a puma footprint cast. / Drove on to Scott Mtn. & camped. All streams high. Road mostly paved up E. side of Clair Engle lake. Much floating wood in lake. 290 mi. from Berkeley.

16 June 1975. Walked 1 mile up road toward Tangle Blue Lake, but much rock in road, deer & coyote tracks only. Mixed conifers, brushy, rocky slopes. Drove over Scott Mtn. pass (5400'), to Callahan, then to Salmon River. Patches of snow at pass. Salmon River high. Road washed out at spots & still under repair. Dogwood & white azaleas in bloom. Somes Bar, visited Steve Mullen. He estimated 10 pumas on district, about 400 sq mi. (He was a game warden for 3 years.) He indicated general areas. Said he had consulted w. Dave Kelleyhouse, also pursuing for me in this area, recently. Got closed road info. / Drove then to N. (0.2 mi) and up road 13N12, 4", toward Ukonom L.O. Too hard & too much pneumonia traffic for tracking. Road to Ukonom also had car today; found no puma tracks

C-2

Series B 0

↓

Wk. Rd. 8.2 0

↓

Sandy Bar Cr. 7.4 0

1.1 Rd. up

3.8 10-bu. jct.

.7 Rd → L0, 4 up it

3.4 to Divide

Journal

16 June 1975. Klamath N.F., Siskiyou Co., Cal.

on it; gravelly compared to last Oct. Lower road around U. Mtn. had banks caved in at spots. / Bob Totens + wife at L.O., as last year. Enthusiastic about wildlife but no new information. Talked w. them about 1 hr. Killeyhouse had been there recently. Road up had deer tracks. / We also saw 2 Sciurus + 3 chipmunks during day. / Departed about 4 p.m. & descended to Somes Bar via Ti Bar, to telephone Dave. Then back to road up Rogers Creek, where apparently

c-1 much traffic (construction + logging) and camped. Half cloudy afternoon but cleared evening. Heard no owls or coyotes at night.

17 June 1975. About 10 vehicles (trucks) ascended road before 6 a.m. Mostly paved road. Drove down & up Klamath R. Stopped to look at Dillon Creek, about only clear water. A long pool about 10' deep between rock walls – in it we saw a group of five otters swimming together, underwater & occasionally up together. Continued on to Independence Bridge + ascended toward Titus Ridge. 3.3 mi. from bridge, stopped at bulldozed turnout where puma tracks last October and found large tracks in hard mud. Perhaps made a week ago. Several tracks. Photoed single, + fore-hind set. Front pad 70, toes 92. Pad + 9 long. Length

10, 11 tracks → 90. Another front, pad 70; hind pad 63, toes 80 (in double track, photoed). Another hind 55 p 77½.

12 double

Judged same as prev. yr. Spanned at least 30 m; in same direction as October '74. Angles of pad well defined: . About 50 m. to E. of these, edge road, 2 poorer tracks in dust – smaller puma. Hindfoot 48 pad. Deep heel notches. About same spot as last October / ♂ + ♀? | Bridge to Titus Gap, 5.1 mi. Mostly old blacktop, dust sides. Hound tracks / Took road N. along contour. Freshly graded – day before yesterday? and no traffic today. Good dust + at least 50% trackable. Drove slowly. Tracks deer (2), fox, 1 bobcat, bear + small cub, no puma, 1 skunk.

R# 13 Tit. R. rd. About 2.9 mi. to first ridge + sharp turn. Photo to NE. Bear tracks repeatedly. Occas. 1 coyote. 6.6 mi. along ridge tracked to Malone C. divide, where I

← 6.6 mi found tracks 2 last Oct. + road intersection. But found no puma tracks,

Journal

16 [7] June 1975. Wed. W. Klamath N.F., Siskiyou Co.

f-1 ground mostly hard & gravelly now. Checked side roads 1/4 mi. each. / Met Larry Forbes, Klamath N.F. biologist, in truck. Brief talk but not informative. He did not keep puma reports. / We explored down roads on Elk Creek

c-1 side - gravelly now - then returned to Titus Gap. / Then drove on lumpy dirt road to Corn Hollow. Traffic had dusted tracks. / Cindy took 3 6-8" rain-

c-1 bows in the clear creek, 2400'. No puma tracks found - better later in season. / We returned to Klamath River road. To Oak Bottom to look for DK.

[=19th]
18 June 1975. Thurs. Dave K. did not arrive. Departed 0730 up Offield road; checking corners & sideroad jcts.; partly paved. Tracks of deer, coyote, toads. Saw 1 Oreortyx. Fog at lower levels. / Offield

c-2 Saddle, above fog; 5/10 cover. Tracks deer, racoon, fox. Logging trucks coming from E., Merrill Mtn. area, & that road oiled. / at 3200', among tall Douglas fir, saw juv. Tamiasciurus, first young seen out this year. / White azaleas, pink rhododendrons. / Camp 3, white azaleas in bloom; vine maples, ferns. / Went out 12N08 for 1/4 mi. afoot. Tracks - bear, deer, coyote. Good road condition. Also tried 12N48 in car, but gravelly &

c-1 hard surface, thru much cut-over land, & connected w. Merrill Mtn. logging zone. / Then back thru Camp 3 to Haypress road, 13N03A, good for

c-2 2 mi., sandy. Walked 1/4 mi. toward creek & back. Deer & coyote tracks. Walked 1/4 mi. on Marble Mtn. trail - soon into trees, where sub-

w-1 strate poor for tracks. About 10 cars of hikers there. / Went down 15N17 where fairly good (cond. 4) sandy until Stanshaw dr., then harder - little traffic, spots trackable. Sideroad at Stanshaw with rain; some good dust. Deer tracks.

c-2 Below 1st Sandy Bar creek, trackable for about 2 mi. - then poor. Back to Klamath Hwy. & drove to Oak Bottom to confer w. D. Kelley - house. He had jeep & trailer house. Had checked some nearby roads & found tracks near Irving Creek (scat, & scrape). I got his field notes,

Journal

19
~~18~~ June 1975. W. Klamath N.F., Siskiyou Co.

Suggested he move to Mendocino N.F. for a week or so. He reported a fisher track from Alsarone LO road. Stayed in Aikens Bar. To Trinity Co.

20
~~19~~ June 1975. Friday. With Cile, drove via Orleans & Willow Creek to Salyer & Gray's Falls. There a dozen people fishing for silversides salmon, w. no visible results. On to Weaverville, then toward Hayfork. Douglas fir (small), black oaks, Digger pine; much cut over on E. side of Hayfork Summit (3600'). Good view toward Billy Chapp Mtn. Mts. rocky at top, then conifer belt, & chaparral fields below. / Drove up Hayfork Creek, about 10' wide, clear. Douglas fir, some yellow pine, campgrounds. To Wildwood, then H. Guld R.S. nr. Beegum & talked w. office men. One said reports in Seeliger Ranch area. One said he traveled Brushy Mtn. much & had never seen puma; thought scarce. All said many deer. / Drove

C - 2
W - ~

SW to N. Fk. Beegum camp, in canyon bottom, deep shade, large DF, IC, & low Tapers-trees. Stream clear, 6' wide. Then back to 28N10 & S.W. thru open conifers & brush. Took Round Bottom 4 w.d. rd. PP, Digger P, Manz., live oak, on slope. Many deer tracks & scats. coyote. Road blocked at 1 mile; walked down to Middle Fork Beegum Cr. (Cile saw 1 [illegible].) Trout to 7" in pools; clear rocky stream w. close cover. Open PP on slopes, manzanita chaparral above.

2~~0~~1 June 1975. Saturday. Drove toward Round Mtn. (conifers to top) on 28N10 & W. on Ryan Meadow branch to crest on Brushy Mtn. Tracking cond. 3. Mixed conifers, PP, IC, DF. Overlooks to E. & W. Tracked to

C - 4 mi.
Ft - 1 mi

White Rock Sta. At one point in low Ceanothus, a salt block - ground solidly covered w. deer tracks for 50' around, then somewhat less numerous. No carnivore tracks found. Good dust. Mt. Quail calls. Continued S. - saw 2 deer; usually 4± tracks on road. White Rock Sta. had horses in pasture, in tall mixed conifer zone. No one home but seemed good lion info site. Drove on to Stuart Gap,

14
KR → N
– McF Ridge, goat camps

Journal

21 June 1975. Sat. N E Mendocino N.F., Tehama Co.

KR 16 7/5, N. Yolla B. mtn. 17 - clean shot. 5000'; road hard but spots tracked. Saw Citellus lateralis. About 12 cars at wilderness trailhead. Mostly P ponies. / Took Stan Mtn. rd. to N. Hard man, could be dusty later. along contour about 6 mi., on E. slope of Round mtn. [snow patches on N. Yolla B. Mtns.] Spaced pines & cutover areas. / Back N. to Platina road & drove E. to Red Bluff, S. to Corning, & W. to Paskenta. Then to SW on Log Spr. rd. [SW Tehama Co.] & up it. At about 1500' chaparral commenced. Digger pine. Freshly graded. 3000' - PP, DF, black oak, 50% brush. On slopes to N. of Thomes Cr., big chaparral fields. Main road ahead became freshly oiled, so detour

C-5 on 23N29 toward Doe Pk. Good dust, but much traffic today. 4800'; jct. on L.S. [Log Spr.] Ridge (7 mi. to L.S.). Searched afoot. Then drove W. on 23N06 to Log Spr.; wide, sand, gravel & oil, but partly trackable. Bear tracks in dust, & deer, coyote. / At Log Spr. Sta., fire crew. One man said here 3 years & had not seen puma. / We took road via Kenny Ridge de-

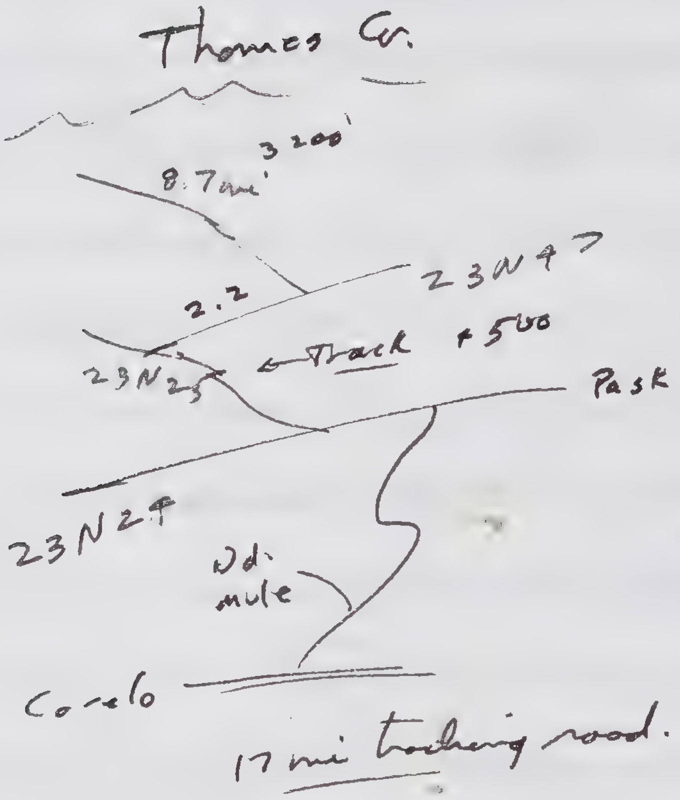
W-1 scending to Thomes Creek. Crossed & zig zagged on unmapped roads, but finally arrived at a road end [3,200'] about 400 yds. above creek bottom, below Willow Cr. fork. Descended to creek. Rocky, open, mossy, but clear, w. trout to 7"; cold water. (Dragged brush down road from near top.) Camped.

22 June 1975. Started back up road; car tracking; Erik on hood. Road surface 3 (fair). + 8.7 mi to wide road; 23N47 - mod. gravel & dust. On 2.2 mi. & turned L on 23N25. Tracks deer, dog, bear. Saw small brown bear run down across road

P. track p. 47 at 4500'. Then Erik spotted puma track a few days (3?) old on road, at dip & curve. Hindfoot 47 p 70 t, fore 53 p 73 t. Coarse measures. Lead 4"; flat, 5 mm. dust. Then L. on 23N24, toward ~~Cecile~~ Paskenta. Then R. (1½ mi. on)

Tr. - car - 17 mi. & up. Past Kenny Camp, & R on 23N50. 17 miles from camp. / Drove E on 23N06 past L. Spr. Sta. to Doe Pk. jct. Fresh tracks

C-17 of large bear, coyote, deer. / Out to SE on Doe Pk. (11 mi.) road, 23N03. Fresh deer & coyote tracks. Spot tracked from car. At 4200';


Thomas Cr.
3200'
8.7 mi
23N47
2.2
track +500
23N25
Pask
23N29
Old mule
Covelo
17 mi trucking road.

Log spr.

Journal

22 June 1975. NE Mendocino N.F., Calif.

p. Tracks Glenn Co. spot checks 7 mi. — 5.6 mi. on road, track puma, about 3 days old. About 80 p 72 t, 73 e (hind?). Also older track, opposite direction. Possibly larger cat, (or forefoot) 55 p 85 t. Heard Screamin call. Area of Q. chrysolepis + small PP. (Shortly before 4000' sign.) Passed Grindstone Cr. (Hardin Gulch) rd. 6.4 mi. from start Doe Cr. rd., dip + cattleguard; .8 mi more to Red Mtn Rd. Then 2.1 to Copperwood Spr. (where puma bit pickup in 1974?). Mostly chaparral on E. side of Doe Pk. Below ca 3600', mostly brush fields. About 7 mi. more to flat at bottom. Drove via Elk Creek & Willows back to Berkeley. Two

c-4 c-1 — tracks located today, not fresh. Tracked 17 mi. by car (slow), 10 mi spot (5/mi) spot checks, on foot < 1 mi.

26 June 1975. Friday. Drove to Placerville. Then S. on hwy 49 to Sonora. This road thru blue oak - digger pine foothills, apparently below range of resident pumas. Went up hwy. 108 past Strawberry, Tuolumne Co., + took side road toward Beardsley Reservoir. (108 thru fairly continuous small conifers, few breaks from logging or brush, & perhaps thus poor for pumas.) Mixed

c-? — conifers on NW aspect slope. Camped about 4900' on side road. Road tracked 2 mi. Heard coyotes call. Cool clear night.

27 June 1975. Saturday. Tracked 1 mi. + return on Vespa scooter; deer present, racc. 2 sets. Drove down E. to Donnell Res. road + E on it. At first (1 mi.) much gravel, then dustier. Patches live oaks, brush; granite boulders, side stair streams. Seemed good puma habitat on slope above river. About 4 mi. to stage of last summer. Road too damp for good tracking, though sandy. Recent

c-6 — rainshowers. Tracks large dog, deer. About 8 mi. from start, road ascended, rockier, & went to Donnell Res. Dam. Reservoir between rocky steep walls. Saw fishermen at river. Water muddy but not high. Turned back to S. Good for tracking later in summer. | Went to Hells Half Acre at head Beardsley Res. River high, 100' wide. At Several campers + fishermen, but no buildings or other

Schimke, Harry
414 W. Schnell
Sonora

Journal

27 June 1975. Sat. Stanislaus N.F., Tuolumne Co.

developments. Road sandy – perhaps good mid summer – and it continued on 30 mi.,
c-1 on N. side river, to Donnington. Trackable 1 mile up SE slope. About 3/4 mi. up to paved road to Beardsley Dam. 7 mi. to Dam, 3400'. Mix of conifers. Many boats, marina. Brush on some slopes + ridges. Much recreational traffic today – camper trucks, motorbikes. | Returned to Sonora + down hwy. 49 to Coulterville, in chaparral area. To E, Pilot Ridge + knob apparently had conifer stops (Don McLean mention). On SE. Miami Mtn. – apparently logged years ago; mostly thick brush, w. 10% young conifers (FS bio reports). Manzanita still in blue oak, digger pine belt. But conifers started on ridge nr. Usona, on way to Oakhurst. Gassed up, drove to head of Bass Lake, + took Chilkoot Camp road to NE. Paved – but later old, w. dirt spots. Much recreational traffic. Close conifers w. little undergrowth; apparently poor puma habitat. Ascended about 12 mi. to Cold Springs Summit, 7000', in red fir, w. small snow patches still. Visited Chilkoot Lake – high water, but clear, surrounded by forest, probably fair fish population. Rare deer tracks. Drove N. to
c-3 Beasore Mdws., grass green, store, lodgepole pines. Some deer tracks. Took road → Minarets R.S., 10 mi. ~~But~~ Over ~~to~~ Stately Ridge. Fine large wide-spaced ponderosa pines (+ IC, SP, firs) on E slopes. Probably this basin was the reported puma area, in upper San Joaquin drainage. To Chiquito Camp area, where 30± campers. Creek high but clear. Manzanita + ceanothus brush among pines.

(actually 29th) → 28 June 1975. Sunday. To Minarets R.S., + talked w. fire crew. Kirk Palmer apparently back today. On fine paved road, clear to North Fork (40 mi.). ~~He~~ Kirk said saw 2 m. Vista Point in June. another report nr. Rock Creek camp. Range Rod Poor knowledge roads + trails + group showed little interest in pumas. | Drove N. past Jackass Rock (from er report from E Peabody). Took Graveyard Cr. road 2 miles; only 1 camper
c-2 gp. there. Tracking good (2 mi., car, 2 sides), but no puma signs. Drove on main road to beyond McCreary Mdws., then turned back. Red fir, pines,

Journal

29 June 1975. Mammoth Pool area, Sierra N.F.

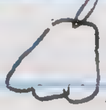
cut-over parts. Too damp for good tracking dust. Out Graveyard Mdw. road 1/2 mile; also too damp & hard. Back to start of S. Fk. trail spur. Out it .8 mi on
c-1
road, parked. 6300'. Down trail 4.5 mi. to French Trail, 5100'. Then open conifers, boulders,
w-$3 mi
brush - good lion habitat on mod. slope. Then started scramble through rocks + brush toward San Joaquin R., but no trail & soon gave up, 1000'+ above river level. Fine views of domes, granite, near river. Back to car 3 p.m. On way, flushed dove from nest in oak, about 8' up. Saw 2 bandtails, robins, squirrel-
6/29 → Shuteye ridge from E.
eaten cones. | Drove to road 6S09, just w. of crossing Rattlesnake Cr., + down it thru open stand tall P Pines, some IC. Saw 1 deer, tracks. Good old dirt surface; some trackable. Road entered 6S22 below Little Jackass camp. This road trackable, wide, & wound about 6 mi. up onto high ridge, branched, both dead ends. Good prospect for tracks; many
c-6
car tracks today. | Went to edge Mammoth Pool. Dozens of campers, several boats. Back up to paved road FA100 + to Soda Spr. area to camp.

30 June 1975. Monday. Clear, calm. Drove S. on paved FA100 to Vista Pt., where fine views from Madera Pk. to Kaiser Ridge, including Ritter Range. Mixed conifers w. big P pines (puma sighting reported here). Drove up Shuteye Pass road, 7S02, tracking w. (RC+)
Crib from car. Hard but dusty, 60% trackable surface. Probably traffic yesterday, probably not today yet. Start 4400'. Mixed conifers, black oaks, SPPP. At 4 mi., crossed Rock Creek, 5400'. Rare deer tracks, no coyote or bobcat. Areas of closed firs - dark, little brush. Saw 4 Sciurus, 1-2 at time. On
Tracked c-10 mi. (2 mi on 1 way)
up to 6300', 6½ mi on road; red fir, IC, pines. Little climb next 2 mi, to 6500'. No prominent saddle seen. Mixed conifers, much red fir. Occas. cattle tracks on road. Went 1/4 mi. up Browns Mdw. road; ok for tracking. Took road toward North Fork, old blacktop on road. Sideroad to Whiskey Falls camp, 1 mile. Good tracking. Found puma track at side of road, est. 4 days old.
Track
43p 75t, 80 long. Another 37 pa (= sub?). Poorly defined but took
LR+-20
photo of larger. Also tracks coyote, deer. 5800'. Mixed conifers. Drove

Journal

30 June 1975 — NW Sierra N.F., Madera Co., Calif.

on toward North Fork. Road soon oiled, then logging trucks, then paved. Visited USFS RS; Bill Sloocum busy, so left note + posters for him. Drove to Dinkey Creek area. Checked Bear Cr. road but found it heavily gravelled + freshly oiled! / Camp at Markwood Mdw. Bear Creek high, cold, but clear; took 2 brown trout, small.

1 July 1975. Tuesday. Drove down Fence Mdw. road to Lost Mdw. rd, 10 S69 – 2 miles of good dust, to past Nutmeg Spring. Previous traffic today. Tracks cattle, quail, deer (Cattle tracks spoiled tracking – could drag road + check early a.m.). Erik ran Nutmeg cutoff on scooter, 2.1 mi. each way, RC 4 – tracks 2 deer, coyote, bear, squirrel. Fresh coyote tr. + droppings. / Near Fence Mdw. campgr., saw brood Mtn. Quail, 12±, cross road. Flat, mixed conifer zone. First seen this yr. / Visited Fence Mdw. LO – same man as last yr. (wife, Wendy, away). Good tracking to LO – 2 mi – dogs, coyote, deer. Preparation for brush project (spray, burn) on W. side Patterson Mtn. – spray helicopter here now. Rep talks to lookout (said saw 1 puma on road last summer). Then back → Nutmeg S. Saw another brood Mt. Quail, slightly larger young, wing quills formed. About 10. Photo of ♀. She gave calls kuk-kuk ∧, faint, sometimes starting w. rattle, as if to warn young to stay hidden. She crossed road away from chicks, later back as if looking for them. / Sugar pines have many cones hanging – old open ones + new unopened, at many sites. / Tracked road from Nutmeg Saddle – fair dust RC-3. 2 mi. to Oak Flat jct. – there found track adult ♂ puma. Pad 62 (hind), no lateral angles, long , long center heel lobe. Front 70± pad, lateral angles . (Evidently same as ♂ cast by Ron R. on 11 June above Grand Bluffs!) 4500'. Stride 26" along road side. Tracks est. 4 days old – to side of recent traffic – was at inside preceding curve, 50 m. distant. Photo of pair, 62p + 67p.,

T1: c-2 (2 men)

c-2

c-3 (2 men)

tracked scooter – 2.1 mi (+ back)

KR – ♀ Mt Q. and roll – Teleph. F 8

Rev KX – x-Mt Q. – ES

c-2 mi. (2 men)) O.W.

ft – 1/2 mi.

KR – 2 tracks

Journal

1 July 1975. Dinkey Cr. area, Sierra NF

- 1 track — ruler between, where 12" apart (stride or lead?). Also photo single, 6 x 6; R side.

Scooter - 3 mi (+ back) — Eric checked 3 mi road → Fence Mdw.; washed out end; good tracks but no puma.

TR - C - 2 (2 man) D.W. — We car trailed down to Rose Canyon, 1.8 mi. - to 4300'. / I car trailed & spot checked Oak Flat road, 1 mi & return - deep dust - bear, coyote, deer

C - 1 mi (+ ret) — tracks. / Fished - took 2 browns, 5 rainbows, 7-10½". Water high, clear.

1 man out & back — Returned to Marlwood Mdws.

215 W! →

2 July 1975. Wednesday. Talked w. Ron Bertram & G. Ashcraft re deer studies & pops. Said good fawn production last 2 yrs.; yearlings in back lill, condition improving. They said notable improvement in nos (17/sq mi roughly → 40/sq mi) in Hall Mdw. study area. / Bertram said reports sightings nr. Sawmill Flat (tunnel area) on road, last fall. Also report cubs at Coyote Pass (= ?) [on Samson mtn. - S. of Kings]. Ashcraft said road cond. poor on Mt. Hoffman - no lion tracks seen there yet. He said worked on Mendocino N.F. about 1952-3. Cold ~~Spr~~ Creek trail often had lion tracks. Also in Skeleton Glade, where brush dozing project. Anderson Ridge also had tracks. Based at Nye Camp, w Russ Farrell (trapper) - (deceased). A family of 5 lions reported Skeleton Glade by Russ. Saw lion & one kitten near Pole Gate on Open Ridge. / - Hohl had heard of lions at Sheepy Mtn., Modoc Co. - now working here & helping look for lion tracks. Bertram says spend several hundred man hours / yr. looking for tracks from car, especially during spring migration. Have recent revised maps of migrations & holding areas. / Recent June 11 track in brush clearing area above Grand Bluffs, not on regular road. / Saw one chickaree yesterday, about - later. Summit Mdw. & Fence M. roads, red fir area. None around Marlwood Mdws. camps, apparently. / Drove back to Berkeley, 227 mi. to home.

3 July 1975. Departed 7 p.m. & drove to Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co., to

Journal

3 July 1975. Thurs.   Nr Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co, Calif.

J. McMillan ranch. at midnight, saw about 5 Dipodomys and 3 Sylvilagus on Gillis Canyon road.

4 July 1975. Fri. Discussed puma, coyotes, kit fox, & other problems with Jan McMillan. Recently county had 1080-poisoned adjacent ranch, [confirmed by letter from observer] without notice to Jan; hearsay report of 2 kit foxes found dead. He also had a number of green-backed goldfinches found dead after agricultural spraying. Quail - saw many chicks, including tiny ones, evidently from nestings after June 1 - probably first layings failed. Many jack- & cottontail rabbits this year, + excellent crop barley harvested. Red-tailed hawks abundant. We saw ravens + barn owl still in nest hole. Good crop of deer fawns. All day at ranch.

5 July 1975. Sat. With Erik & Julie Pegford, U.C. students, drove via Navajo cr. area to Queen Bee campground in Los Padres N.F., thence up road to ridge trail (Black - Branch Mtn). I hiked
x N. on ridge, Erik hiked S. Clear warm day. Dust poor but spots suitable for tracking. Near old iron gate, about .6 mi. before Rock
5A Ranch jct., 3400', I found old puma tracks, one pair, in dried
% - 2 tracks 5-5-75 mud. Photoed. Pad 55 in apparent hind track - too poor for sure
60-80 ± rec'd identification. Area of chamise, manzanita, small Coulter pines. Nearby, old bear track, large. Occas. single track of coyote, and occas. droppings. Rare track 1 deer. | About 2.6 mi. total to Rock
Road tr - 2.5 Ranch jct. (graded road), 3500'. I walked W. on trail on ridge. Found
t. w - 4 mi no tracks or fresh scratches in about 1.2 mi. to Δ peak,
(+ ret.) where tracks found last yr. | Returned then to start Pine Spr. trail.
w - 4 (5?) About 4 mi. each way. Erik & Julie had also gone about 4 mi., found no puma tracks but fresh bear tracks. Cattle now on parts of ridge. We returned thru Queen Bee (several campers for day)

Journal (puma survey)

5 July 1975. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

to Sam McM. ranch. Saw several jackrabbits on Keller C. road. Heard no Oreortyx today. To Avenales Ranch

6 July 1975. Sunday. Eric stayed at ranch while I drove via Navajo Camp to Avenales Ranch. Spot checked road between Navajo c/g + summit;

c-1 good dust on corners; no puma sign. / Most of main road on ranch graveled now. I drove up road to Rubber pasture, w. occasional stops

to w- 1 mi. (+ ret.) to look for tracks. Then hiked N. on trail to ridge where tracks seen last year. Good dust near b/w gate + 1/4 mile beyond, but no puma sign. / Drove then up road to Bald mountain sta. - road mostly black-

c-1 topped, but checked spots at sides + tops. / Back down + up road to Stony Creek, checking spots. Checked continuously cartracked (one side, clear) out road, 2.4 mi., to c/g. - some traffic seen today. Quail, deer, dog, coy-

to x-3 1/2 + 1/2 ote tracks. Also went 1/2 mile farther on road in canyon bottom. Water clear in creek, scarcely running. / Returned toward Avenales. Walked

w-1/2 1/2 mile N. on Garcia Ridge - no puma sign. Good dust. Tracks quail, cattle, coyotes. / Saw several broods small quail today on Avenales. Returning thru Chalk Cr. canyon, several quail groups w. broods on road, crossing to feed from vineyards, or from Atri-plex rows. Apparently good quail crop. Saw fawns w. does in alfalfa + plowed fields in Santon's area. / Back to S. McM's.

7 July 1975. Monday. Spent a few hours w. Sam looking at vegetation + animals. At "deer field" area on San Juan creek, saw 2 Swainson hawks, dark plumage, perched in cottonwood tree. One later carried a stick in flight, as if nest building. The pair flew with + above 2 turkey vultures. Many jack rabbits + quail in weedy + Atriplex area of deer field. / Returned to ranch. Visited with Elen McMillan for an hour. He also reported unusual rains,

Journal (puma survey)

6 July 1975. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

joice rabbits this year. He thought snakes important predators of young quail. El plans trip to San Pedro Martir soon, w. Ed Harrison helpers.

17 July 1975. Departed Berkeley 10 a.m. with Eric K. for Dinkey Creek area. Partly overcast in valley & mountains. Camped at Marshwood Mdws, where F & G helper Hohl told us of puma reports near Lost Mdw. and perhaps Tamarack Ridge (see Bob Gail). Roads dry & streams about usual summer level. I caught 14 3/4" brown trout from Bear Creek below Wishon road. Overcast night.

18 July 1975, Friday. Took Nutmeg S. road to Fence Mdw. 1.7 mi. deep dust in Lost Mdw. sect. after Sawmill jct, more gravel, but good dust

C tr. 2 mi. .4 mi. on near Nutmeg Springs + for .5 mi. more. Then more gravel. Found tracks clear, no puma. / Near Nutm. S., saw Oreortyx with brood 1/2 grown young by road. Saddle 4.1 mi. from FM jct. / Went 1/2 mile out Nutmeg

C Tr. 1/2 cutoff - coyote + bobcat tracks. / Back toward Fence Mdw. 2 mi. gravel, then 1.6 of dirt, road cond. 4-3. Spot checked only down road; dust

tracked spots only ↗ good (RC4) but premium traffic. / Took Balch Camp road - rather rocky (= 0.0) but 20% trackable 3.3 mi. to Lower Rancheria spring; a small creek, 3460'. Coyote tracks. Blue oaks - grass - oak brush in draws. Abundant

C - 4 Lophortyx. FM ridge 4.2 mi. Harder ground on downhill (E) side; saw Deer tracks. ~~N.F. bridge~~ Dinkey Cr. bridge at 9.7 mi. / Drove to Rogers Crossing.

— S. Fk. high but clear. Took road toward Mill Creek. Talked w. guard at Camp 4 1/2 station - he had puma posters + forms, knew nothing of pumas. 3 mi. to Mill Flat Cr. camp. Then up dusty dirt road (trafficked earlier; now midday). Occasional shade. At 2700', deer tracks, + solid large oak brushy slopes. 9 mi. up Mill Fl. C. to Spot Saddle - good dust still, RC4; bobcat tracks. Spot checking side road + curves. Another 3.3 mi. to curve + ⟲ where found puma tracks last year;

Journal

18 July 1975 N. Sequoia N.F.

:c-7 a V of 2 cedars there, & deep dust. Delilah R. road 14 mi. up Millfl. Creek. / To McKenzie G. Sta. — no one there. Went to McKenzie ridge & out it. 1½ mi. to road and fork to L. Another mile out, puma track on downslope

track & 61 x 5 of road. Pads 55 hind 64 front. 5700'; in second growth mixed conifers (PP, IC mostly) on W. slope nr. top ridge. Photos (2) of 2 tracks, pads ~~55 + 64~~ 53 + 66. Hindfoot long — about 95 mm — and pad w. center lobe wide, & pad long; 6" lead.

c-3 w-1 Similar tracks at various spots for ½ mile. Mostly shallow, so that could easily miss in casual search. In shallow dust, hind pad was 52 mm. across. / Back to road, to Millwood, thence on up to 4 corners, spot checking. Many

c-1 cattle on this road. No puma tracks found nr. Millwood or spots beyond. Camped at top, 6800'. Saw several violet green swallows perched & flying around dead conifers. Saw white thr. swifts. Saw several redtailed hawks today. Pair mt. quail near camp. / Bulldozing of brush on slopes into piles, for burning (?). Calm evening.

19 July 1975. Saturday. Erik & I drove out Converse Basin road, good dust but some wet spots (RC 3-5), stopping occas. to look at tracks, mainly dog in

c-5 center. Only one car passed this morning. Many cattle tracks. No puma tracks until Boole Tree trail from Stump Mdw. Track one ad. ♂, apparently same one as ~~Con~~ McKenzie Ridge track. Forefoot: 70 p — 97 toes, ~~60~~ 65 pad, 63, 68 (97 long), 67 (100 long). Hindfoot pad long w. wide & longish center lobe: 53 wide, 53 — 83 toes, 55 p, 55 × 95 long;

KR-LH ft 56-85 much narrower than forefoot. About 200 m. on road, several more tracks on inside edge dusty curve. All at least 1 day old but not covered by road traffic dust.

KR 8 - gate - 6300' p 67 p 55 2 tr. At end road (gate), 1¼ mile from start tracks, several more. Photoed pairs. 1" dust, 10-70 upslope, 6300' elev. Also large dog, cattle, coyote, bobcat tracks in vicinity. /

KR 7a - p. 57 + 66, lead 6" Returned back road, about 5 mi., then via Cherry Gap thru Grant Grove to hwy 180, thence via 2-45 to Pinehurst where talked 1 hr. w. Chas. Lowrey, resource officer. He said that rancher near Dunlap told of 12 lions

Journal

19 July 1975.   N. Sequoia N.F., Tulare Co.

being killed near there (years?), and a lion currently nearby (some one seen by ranger about Feb. 75?). Laurie very interested in lions. Current Delilah Lookout had reported seeing one condor this summer. / Via Dry Creek road to Lemon Cove, via Yokohl Valley (open dry grasslands - few inhabitants, grassy & rocky hills) over a blue oak crest to Springville. To house of Bill Dye (Road 320, near start of rd. to Strathmore) but not home. (Phoned home of Bill Douglas from Grant Grove). / Drove up Tule R. canyon. about 2000'; steep slopes w. thick mixed brush, probably good puma zone. about 4000'; occasional conifers. 5000'; Camp Nelson w. many houses & people, above, mostly conifers, excellent paved road thru mixed conifers w. rare sequoias, no evidence recent logging. Perhaps too dense woods for best puma country. Quaking Aspen store 6700'. Above mostly red fir thru some meadows. Continued on past Dome Rock / Went up Bone Creek road, good dirt but many cattle, 6000' and up. Meadows & old clear cut blocks; mostly red fir. To below Mule Pk. L.O. (but not up trail), which looks over Tule R. Ind. Res. to W. Camped in red fir. Saw small owl (Otus?) in eve, heard none.

20 July 1975. Sunday. Erik & I drove down from Bone Mdw. area. Met hounds-man w. 4 hounds, Reynolds from Johnsondale. He after some conversation, he said that he had treed a puma several times in Sandy Hills - Peppermint Mdw. areas. Also said once saw track on Bone Mdw. road. He thought hound hunting would be phased out in Calif. Fair dust on road; tracks bobcat (1), dog, 1 deer. Descended to paved road. Took Lost Chance road toward Kern R., dirt road. Ponderosa & Digger pines, live oaks, granite boulders, shrubs - seemed good puma habitat. Hit paved road & drove up canyon. Sandy Hills area vegetation varied, w. open stand conifers (mixed), oaks, brush, & boulders, on mod. slopes, sandy bottoms. Patchy dry grass. Peppermint C/G area had many campers — and adjacent areas; a few hundred. On past The Needles. Then some forest became thicker, pine trees closer & smaller, including lodgepole pine, & little brush - appeared poor for

Journal

20 July 1975 — Kern R. Cany., Tulare Co., Calif.

W-1

KRB 10 down K. Cny. for rn Needles

W-1

puma. Road (paved) to a mile beyond Freeman Cr. | Back to Johnsondale to telephone Douglas. Then to Kern R. crossing (100+ cars, campers, fishermen). Up Sherman Mtn. road about 2 miles. Dry chaparral, as most of W-aspect slopes of Kern Canyon. Parked by road. Walked about 1 mi. to top of pass, going N. on Rincon Fault road. Dry brush, dry sandy soil, motorcycle use today, many cattle tracks. But saw no puma sign — long trail thru similar country should be good index site. Not here. Returned to The Needles area for rest of day — black oaks, P pine, granite rocks, brush. | Hiked down to Kern River, 40 min. on rough trail, to 4500' elev. Rocks, oaks, digger pines, & P pine. No puma sign nr. trail. Fished along shore 1/2 mi. for 1 1/2 hrs; took 3 small trout (1 brown). River high & fast but clear. Returned upslope & camped at Needle Rock Creek.

KR 11 A→N up Rincon Fault trail

C-2

21 July 1975. Drove S. toward Kernville. Just N. of there, slopes mainly granite boulders w. brush, dry appearance, some digger pines. Baker Ridge & lookout prominent to W. Thru Kernville & Lake Isabella, then about 7 mi. E. to ~~Mt. Mesa~~. Bill Douglas ~~Douglas~~ on Lynch Cny. road in small home. I had not seen him for over 25 years. He had worked about 15 for F + Wildlife in this area (toward desert), previously w. Fish + Game. Not familiar in Greenhorn Mtn. for last 15 yrs. Much talk of Howard Bilton, who had lived in Greenhorn and done much hunting (deceased 10+ yrs.). Bill said puma could occur anywhere in that zone. Always one in Scodie Range, for example, tho this isolated & dry (conifers atop). Nine-mile area from Lamont Peak to Kennedy Mdws. mainly winter range (few deer summer). Rincon Fault trail had many deer winter, & good puma place then — Howard Bilton (ex state hunter) often hunted there & on adjacent road, up to near Durwood Mdws. The area from Sherman Pk. S. to Sirretta Pk. had pumas in summer. Sandy Hills – Peppermint Mdw. area good. Piute Mtns. usually had lion — Bilton often hunted there — road from Bald Eagle Pk. to Burning Moscow Mine. often had sign. Another

Journal

21 July 1975 N. Kern Co.

good but small area was Breckenridge Mtn. from Lightner Mdw. to summit. In Greenhorns, area Portuguese Pass to Baker Pt. LO used to be good. Single lions had been taken several other places. One ♀ killed dogs not far S. of Mt. Mesa. another killed cow, about 1000 lbs., & dragged it 40 yds. down 5% slope. Deer - always broke neck in killing, sometimes w. bite but often apparently by twisting head sideways, perhaps w. a blow of paw. Eating - usually went for heart, liver, lungs first, eating thru ribs. Schedule - thought irregular, sometimes returned, usually unpredictable; no days schedule of return. He said ♀ more erratic in movements than ♂; harder to hunt. Kittens - had only seen one. Reports - about 9/10 probably wrong. Once he & Bitton saw what thought a small lion & turned out to be bobcat. Bitton & Dye had killed many (20?) lions at Glass Mtn. one winter, about May. Hunt - usually travel ridges & drops into heads draws. Kills there, but sometimes lower in canyons or in thick brush. ♀ may be localized for days when has cubs. Scratches - nearly all under Jeffrey pine in this area. Cattle - pumas had killed many in this region. Some moved far - one with many porcupine quills in legs tho essentially no porcupines here. Largest ♂ 182 lbs, Bell thought Don McLean unreliable observer - much info hearsay. He ~~thou~~ thought Bitton fine hunter who knew much & had good ideas about pumas but did not keep diary. Also B. exaggerated some to make a good story. Most lions here were the red phase - at least one blue taken (by H. B). / Arranged tomorrow trip w. Douglas. Then drove E. toward Walker Pass & up Chimney Rock road to Lamont ~~Mt~~ Pass, 5500'. Mostly piñon pines there, many granite boulders, sandy soil, large sagebrush (rare or no junipers), some digger pines, & yellow pines atop Lamont Pk. Looked for tracks - found dog, fox, coyote, cattle. Drove about 10 mi. to Chimney Rock

Journal

21 July 1975 Mon. N. Kern Co., Calif.

2→LaM. Ph. Mdw. (paved road, 11 mi. to hwy 395). Similar vegetation. Some brushy

2→area N. of it. flat areas in side canyons. Large BLM campground w. no people.

Many tracks, rodents, quail, rabbits on sandy roads. / after dark

we drove down to lower level to camp. Heard coyotes sing. Douglas

c-5 w-1 says this "nine-mile" area a winter range of deer, some winters accessible by road

thru winter as little snow, but small summer deer pop. Got lion here w. Bitton (about

1953?) on La M. pass.

22 July 1975. Tues. To Mt. Mesa & picked up Bill Douglas for trip thru Kelso Valley

to Piute Mtn. He had not been up there for several years. Formerly lions crossed

at spots later. French Mdw. & Bald Eagle Pk. / Saw 17 Chukars near Sageland

(Cottonwood Spr. ?) - Douglas had thought them long gone; no guns. 10 mi. from Weldon. /

on thru grasslands to Geringer Grade. (WD used to trap on Harris ranch to S.)

and up it. Blue oaks, grassland, digger pine, some Ceanothus. 5000'; live oaks,

much brush & rocks. 5600' Jeffrey pine occur. - about 50% area w. crown cover,

6000' - tracks 2-3 deer, 1 bear, coyote. 6300' - WD thinks ridge to S. in divide betw.

this range & Tehachapis to S. About 13 mi. to jct. w. Harris Grade rd. Area looked

much like dry mixed conifers in S. Mendocino N.F. Thru Claraville (so far, WD said

c-5 w-1 poor for lion tracking; better to W.). Intersected rd. to Walker Basin (14 mi.). Tracking road

(graded + dirt) fair to Harris G. rd.; then harder; later very good to Saddle Springs, where lunched.

white fir, Red fir, chinquapin, black oak, Jeffrey? oak, saw Quercus & 1/2 gr. chicks. / Bill

said ranges to S. formerly good lion hunting, esp. Indian Creek area (Bitton hunted).

KR#1A Road went out rocky cliffy rim, N. of ridge. Nr. Studebaker Flat, old lion crossings,

said W. D., where he & Bitton took ♀ + 2 large cubs. Best place on mtn. for

puma sign. Bitton sometimes checked only here & departed. 6500'. Brush thickets

& boulders, near lower edge conifer zone. WD very disappointed; was sure we

would find lion sign there, but none. Doubted that any resident lions, or per-

haps 1 or 2. / Down to Havilah & took steep dirt road up Breckenridge Mtn.

Journal

22 July 1975 N. Kern Co. Calif. (Breckenridge Mtn.)

I — To Lightner Flat. Much thick brush, scrub oaks, on way. Bill not here for 15± yrs. - amazed at tall thick brush. Indicated ridge where once lion, below conifers. Lightner Flat area large Black oaks, 6000'; thick brush below, conifers above. No cattle now, saw track 1 deer - WD said former lion crossing, many deer, game trails. Lions trapped there - he looked for old scratch marks in base oak trees. He thought now desolate - little sign any animals. The former crossing toward O'Brien Spring about 1 mile, but no sign now. WD told of lion killing + eating trapped fox. (Says also kill bobcats in traps, tho not eat.). We went about 1 mile toward summit, where a ridge led to road at saddle - another former crossing summer - but no sign now. WD disappointed - conditions changed - not here for many years (10+).

cats - 3 mi; fox - 1; sport dogs - 10

—

23 July 1975. Erik + I w. Bill Douglas to Greenhorn Mtns., where H. Belton (died 1961) often hunted. From Wofford Hts., up Greenhorn road. Bill indicated rocky slopes to N. + to W. where formerly lions were chased. Paved road, mod. traffic. Drove N. from summit toward Tiger Flat, where saw one juv. Tamiasciurus on road w. pinecone, 6500'; mixed conifers. Partly paved or hard, but parts trackable. To Portuguese Pass. We searched trails + found tracks in loose 1" soil. Hind: 47 p., 48 p., 73 toes; Front: 51 p. Across 1 deer track. Searched various spots in trails but only one ♀-size track. Bill thought about 115 lbs. ♀. Red fir, chinquapin, black oaks, ponderosa p. (Mixed conif. 300' higher than Kings R. area?). 6 mi. from Greenhorn Summit. / On to Bull Run Pass - much thin deep shade red fir. Open areas, cattle tracks, Prunus bushes (Bill said good sign lion + deer habitat.) No sign at pass. Back S. a mile + down toward Tyler Mdw. On curve to N (Eastst. sign on tree + spur rd. 5) found good tracks on outer edge road. pad 47 toe 70 (Hind), p 53 t 77 (Fr.). Several tracks in 10mm

KR - #12 print. #13 area from N.

Journal

23 July 1975. Greenhorn Mtns., Tulare Co.

KR-17 road site; -WD — dust, 5% downslope, 18" stride, 5" lead. All agreed same print as before. Tyler

#18 -2 track -p. +8+5-3 left — Mdw. grassy (good fawn area?). On to Dunlap Saddle & out Baker Pt. road.

7500' & sandy on ridge. Mixed conifers, some sugar p. At road end on foot trail to L.O., tracks of

same puma. 47 p 80 t in 3 mm dust. On N. side of ridge. Sharp

ridge. This was new site for WD. / Back to P. Pass & took road down to Guernsey

KR19 B. ridge area — Mill 5500' (now = Sugarloaf). Log trucks; road mostly freshly oiled; many people

& lodge. Had been home & a main hunting area for H. Bilton. WD horrified by

changes since years ago. / Took road to Glennville, then back to

Greenhorn Summit. Much logged off on upper slopes W. of divide. Doug-

h. car 5 — las said had been seen for lions below about 5000'; which was about

ft. 1 — start of conifers, but good deer area in blue oak zone. We saw 2

spot 20 — deer. Bill said pumas used area W. of Portuguese & Sunday Pks., &

Bohna Pk. (rock points) too. Below conifers, oaks, grass, &

patches brush. / Returned to Isabella. More talk. Erik & I departed &

drove up Kern River and camped near Dome Rock. Good views up Kern

= c 15 w-1 — R. & saw helicopter logging near The Needles.

24 July 1975. We drove down Middle Fk. Tule R. area past Camp Nelson. Upper

parts seemed to have good rock-brush-conifer vegetation for pumas,

tho tracking roads scarce or absent. On to Kings River near Trimmer

on very hot day. Thence up Black Rock road toward Wishon Res. on N. Fk.

At Vista Point for look across at Rancheria Falls, 5700', brush, granite, &

conifers, we found puma tracks on inside & outside of road curve, in

spite of day's traffic (also in center). Left: 51 p 78 t., 52-86 t.

Rts: 47-82 h., 55-87 F. 46-76 h, 56-83 fr. 46-76 h, 51-80 F.

KR19 20 track site for N. — Tracks go west along trail up canyon & up outer edge road. Hind feet have

pm 53+42? — toe #2 far advanced, about 1/2 of it ahead in RH, 3/4 in RH - perhaps broken,

KR20 RH toe large #2 toe 46 p 76 t. — so far ahead. 3 mm dust. / Drove on up road. About 6000', apparently

Journal

24 July 1975. S. Sierra Nat. For., Fresno Co.

same point: 46 p 70 t, 52 – ~~; t # 5~~, LH #2 toe 3/4 advanced. / at crossing of Teakettle Creek, 6300', tracks of larger puma, alone. F p 58, H p 50. RH #2 toe 1/2 advanced, however. F + H, mode 59 & 53 drain. LHF t, center heel lobe 3 mm long, toe #2 adv. 1/2 length at front. Tracks on road over 100 m., crossed L + R, then over berm & bank downslope ~~banks downslope~~ at curve, 6400'. Late in day – must careful check of this road earlier in a day when little traffic. Strange that Black Rock sta. has reported no sign; perhaps too low elev. in summer. In Sierras, perhaps lower limit 4000' or +! – not Jay Bruce 3000' in summer (June – Nov.). / Fished in Rancheria Cr., above bridge, & took 1 rainbow + 6 brown trouts. / Talked w. Hohl at Marlinwood Motor.

B & W. loaded #1,2 #3 – 1 tr. H 52 p. long with [illegible] #4 – 2 overlap H 52 p F 63 p. [Aug 3A – 1]

dog c A w 1

25 July 1975. Returned to Berkeley via Friant, Madera, Los Banos, on very hot day.

To Shasta Co.

29 July 1975, Tues. Departed Berkeley 1500 and drove via hwy. 5 to Redding and La Moine road 16± mi. S. of Dunsmuir. Tall clouds + lightning E + W of Redding & Corning, + some rain. Drove 1.6 mi. up Little Slate Cr. road to 2200' + camped in black oak grove w. some digger + ponderosa pines. Hoped to track upper part of this road in Gibson burn tomorrow.

30 July 1975. Drove on up road. Surface washed + hard from yesterday's rain. Small Doug firs; black oaks. 2800', edge old burn, 2.8 mi up road. 10± acre openings w. low brush; edges small conifers + ceanothus. 3200', mixed conifers, esp. DF, to 70' tall. No deer or coyote tracks. At 4 mi., load crossing, turned back. One deer track in mud. / Down hill & drove N. to Mt. Shasta, FS Ranger Sta. Talked w. Bob Gray, FCO, & Bob Benkosky, garage boss. District runs from Sugarloaf LO in S. to Ramshorn Summit on W, Shastina to N, E to [illegible] Summit. Recent records: puma seen T 5 10N 3W S 25 on 8/12/74 by Traverso. Tracks 38 N 5 w, NW S18 10/14/74

c – 5

Yreka: Larry Forbis

842-2741 USFS

842-~~46~~ 4762 home

Journal

30 July 1975 Shasta Co.

by Don Borkowsky. 37N 5W SE1/4 S.1, 1/23/75, by Allred (Mears Ridge). also talked w. Jack Kohl, wildlife biologist (HSC) here for 1½ yrs. — no info on pumas. Trail crew man; working Pac. Crest Trail, said no sign found yet — not on Trinity side yet. Kohl formerly at Susanville — said report of one w. cub near some lookout. | Drove to McCloud & talked w. resource officer Jim Russum. District includes S. thru Bald Mtn. — no reports there, tho Bob Gray of Mt. Shasta said sign a few years ago when building 4wd road. Russum said saw 2 dead sheep, one covered w. ? + other partly w. scraped soil, at Hawthorne Wells area last year; thought lion kill. Sheep area. Last week, employee reported seeing one in lower country N. of Julia Grove (marked both on map). Both seemed unlikely locations (Bob Gray, raised in that area, also thought unlikely places.) | Looked at McCloud river several miles to E. of McCl. There lower flow stretches in conifer country, some over 3000'. Clear fast stream 20' wide. | Returned to Mt. Shasta to see Allred — not there by 4 p.m. | Drove up Everett Road on Mt. Shasta. Big brush fields in lower parts; mixed conifers at about 4000' but soon only red firs perhaps because others logged. 6700' — pure red fir. To Sand Flat + hiked up 2 mi. to Sierra Club stone hut (7700' — just below timber line). Hiked up slope to 8500' for conditioning; to first slabs of snow. saw Clarks Nutcracker. Camped at Sand Flats.

To Siskiyou Co.

31 July 1975. Drove to ski bowl area, 7800'. Timberline here. Hiked to ridge above top of ski lift, to 9400'. Several large soft snow patches on way. Several Citellus lateralis seen in rocks to 9300'. With Sue; our anniversary. Down to Mt. Shasta to look for Allred again — not back. So drove N. to Yreka. ~~Biol~~ Biologist Larry Forbis absent. Drove to Hawkinsville, then W. on gravel & dirt road to Humbug Creek area in Doug. fir canyon. Clear creek, 5' wide. After search + inquiring, found Jim Weldon at home at start of side road N. at Kanaka Gulch, nr. wooden bridge. Hounds noisy. Small wooden

Journal

31 July 1975. Siskiyou Co., Calif.

house. Weldon about 50, heavyset. Had been hunter for 18 yrs. This year had gone back to logging, near Happy Camp, & had sold most dogs. He thought lions had "recovered" considerably in Siskiyou Co. since end of bounties. He said many in winter in French Gulch – Weaverville area. Said treed 11 them last winter while hunting bobcats. Said hunted w. Tant when a boy. Knew several Nevada hunters – Wiley Carroll, Roy Rolly, Merrill Vance. Said lately lions seen in unusual places – perhaps because of decline in deer food. Arranged to see him Aug 3, Sunday, nr. Happy Camp. Gene Sharps (nr. Union Sta.) will know where he is. / Areas W. of Hawkinsville had slopes of sagebrush & ceanothus w. spots of small D. firs.
c-2
Looked good for lion country. Yreka plain, 3000', dry compared to area to S. / Camped at Humbug Camp among large ponderosa pines.

1 August 1975. Siskiyou Co., Calif.

took Rider Gulch road, dirt w. some gravel, toward Klamath R., 14 mi. down to a 4300' crest which overlooked huge old burn (1955±), with occas. pine planted areas. Much brush about 4'; ceanothus, cercocarpus, manzanita. Talked w. USFS man (trailer at Ft. Jones) said many deer (we saw tracks along road), many porcupines attack young planted pines. On way up, saw 3 ravens, Lophortyx. Over crest, bear track. Heard continual yipping
c-9
as if of a coyote or 2 (treed something?) in brushy canyon. Deer + coyote tracks on roadside. Saw doe + 2 spotted fawns at curve, 2700', fresh tracks Lynx, large – hindf. pad 30, forefoot 36. Took b+w photos. / Down to Klamath R. Mostly DF slopes to N.
photos B+W 4-5 bobcat 30 P 36 P
Talked w. USFS man, Mike King, resources officer, about. Randy Davis said years ago seen in upper Kelsey Cr. area, when logging (E. of Marble Mtns.). Another man interested in porcupines + gophers. Said Joe Moore, who lived up Ho Bulldomes Cny., had hounds + should have info. Said N. side Craggy Mtn. a favored hunting area for dogs. Little hard info, but tried to stimulate interest. / Drove on down Klamath Hwy. thru Horse Camp, Seiad V. – a few stores only. To Happy Camp. (A.M. Swain, prop. of the
negs 5A-6, 5

Journal

1 August 1975. Nr. Happy Camp, Siskiyou Co.

Standard sta. where I previously got info. | Drove up Elk Creek (hot day). Good paved road at first, until bridge. Clear fast stream about 5 m. wide; many small rainbow trout. Slopes of D fir, much dead, lbrd, + madrone, alder, Coyalun [hazel], tan To Sulphur Spr., where campers + tall trees. | Back to Titus Road. 1700' foot, 3200' at crest - where found good tracks in Oct. 1974. Road up mod. gravel, the edges trackable - traffic hard today. (Little of Sulphur Spr. road trackable - traffic, partial paving, gravel). Side roads at crest still hard from dried mud, poor tracking. Camped on ridge in PP, DF, black oak

c.-2

2 August 1975. Saturday. Titus Ridge. (Yesterday saw Siskiyou Co. Lewis Woodpeckers in [...] conifer stubs on hauling road.) Hd. Malone Cr. pass - 3000'. Too hard out W + SE roads. Old deer tracks; no fresh droppings. Tracked 6.3 mi. on Titus R. rd. to S. Gravel, but fair dust, RC 3. No traffic today. Fresh tracks quail, toad, coyote, about 2 deer. Later one small bear cub, + later adult bear track. No hounds. Titus Gap, 2900'. Took road to Coon Hollow (c. 3 mi.) - spot checked 5/mi.; no puma sign. | Hot day. Returned toward Independence Bridge. At turnout at 2200', where track earlier this year, still track adult ♂ in dried mud. B+W photo: pad 63 toes 90. Hard ground. Probably better after deer season travel. | To Happy Camp to search for Gene Sharpe (apparently James E Sharpe, 493-2722.) House at W. end of Doolittle, at Hood St. Talked w. his wife Kathy. She telephoned Jim W. - will meet him in morning. Gene not home - mainly bear hunter. Wife in favor of live trapping + removal of depredators. | Weldon walking 8 mi up Dougherty Cr. rd. (S. of Clear Creek). Hot + still in canyon. We drove up Clear Creek road about 7 mi., partly thru burn about 1 yr. old, to high bridge over fast clear creek 5 m. wide between gray rock cliffs. Had small rainbow trout, 4 to 6". DF in forests on facing slopes to S. - undergrowth at edges. | Camped at Dougherty Cr. Still warm night. Saw 1 Lewis Woodpecker at about 2500' on Independence Rd.

Cm 5.3 (2 sides)
F.t. 1

rack
B+W #6
Log EA-7]

3 August 1975. Sunday. We drove up the Bear Mtn. rd., paved, to camp of Jim Weldon at about 4100'. Large mixed conifers near ridge, but many brushes + small trees. Heavy logging farther up road.

Journal

3 August 1975. Klamath R., Siskiyou Co.

apparently a road S. to Pony Pk. Undeveloped forested canyons NW of Dillon Divide. Weldon & I talked about 3 hrs. He had been partner w. Brent. Said B. inexperienced & made mistakes, e.g. mistaking small lion track for bobcat. C. Tant had hunted this area long ago & made long tracks on foot. Weldon said CT took all sexes & ages, really hunted lions out, & greatly damaged population. W. thought could wipe out thru overhunting & slow to come back. (Had come back well in Bald Mtn. - Mill Cr. area of Scott Bar Mtns. One winter he took 11 ♀ in Mill Cr. area, including ♀♀.) JW said had treed 11 pumas last winter, several (5?) of them in area SW of Hirt - Cottonwood Cr., C. Pk., Buckhorn Bally. Puma area extended W. of hwy 5 to beyond Round Mtn., N. of Oak Knoll R.S. JW also hunted in Nevada; mentioned Monitor Valley (Nev. or Calif.?). Siskiyou Co., most males 130-40 lbs., to 165 lbs. ♀ to 122 lbs. An Indian named Southern had hunted puma much, out of Seiad Valley. Other good places - Frying Pan Ridge (always tracks), China Pk. Highways had caused great deer loss, about 1968, in Hilt area. Said had seen tracks recently near Bear Mtn. [may have meant Pony Pk.] Also said Beegum Cr. area best in Trinity region [did not know Saddle Camp]. Had been guide & hunter, but other business too, for 18 yrs. No desire to kill pumas, tho liked to tree them (even if prohibited). Thinks only justified hunting for trophy animals. He said pumas on Klamath River, below Seiad V., at all seasons; in past, often reported near hwy. Logging roads great detriment to wildlife - allowed penetration of hunters. Thought Preston Pk. zone probably good for pumas. Thought areas W. of Callahan & Etna also good, & Quartz V. (w. of Ft. Jones). Marble Mtns. - said tracks near English L., Hancock L., Abbotti Cabin area in summer. Emphasized hunting philosophy much - taking ♀♀ & young, dogs chasing other game. Thought protection now would be reasonable, tho he would always

B&W #7
w fm. 4000.

B&W #8
Preston Pk. area
from E

Journal

3 August 1975. W. Siskiyou Co., Calif.

tree for a look. Thought local people would resent a govt. hunter - but he would like such a job. Liked guide system w. exclusive area, guide to insure proper hunting. Thought cats not in dark forest, except where suffic. deer - oak tree food. I did not pin JW down to estimate of nos./unit area. He said young any time of yr. / Drove a few miles up road; shots toward Preston Pk. Dirt rd. branch toward Pony Pk. / Back down to ~~Salm~~ Klamath River. Hot day. Drove up Salmon R. rd. + up North Fork to Little N.F. Cr. camp. / John Nels McBroom living in old house just E. of creek, N. of hwy. Talked w. him an hour. All life in area. About 50 yrs., sturdy & muscular. Works on USFS trails, knows Weldon. He seemed reliable, friendly, low key. Estimated 6 pumas in whole Salmon R. drainage. No large nos. Sceptical of pumas in Marble Mtns. wilderness, except possibly Deer Lick Cr. NE of English Pk., where a natural lick. Best place for sign was Bloomer Dump, near foot of Horn C. near Nordheimer Flat, W. side Salmon R. A crossing near ~~Matthews~~ ^Mattaber^ Cr., NW of Cecilville, secs. 11, 2, & 35 on trail 12 W 48. On road from N. to S. Fork, w Whites Gulch past Eddy G.L.O. to Cecilville, good track areas near Windy Gaps & Lafayette Pt. Bert + Weldon had had mentioned Idlewild - Music Cr. area; McB. said ♀ had been there but recent visit showed no sign, apparently ♀ gone. Big deer migration from Salmon R → N Fk. Trinity - roads had tragic effect; Blind Horse Rd. (= ?); ~~mentioned~~ ^mentioned^ Big Grizzly, Big Flat, New River, Bald Hills (where ?). Roads hard on game. Thinks few would pass up chance to kill puma. Trust took many in region (JW said took 9 one winter in Mill Cr. area SE of Callahan). McB. offered to ~~acc~~ accompany me on trips later this yr. / 4 August 1975. Drove to Sawyers Bar R.S. + talked w. Wm. Baker, in ~~carge~~ ^charge^ (no ranger at present). Tried to enlist

Journal

4 August 1975. Monday. Sawyer's Bar,

his interest. One F.S. man in office said observed puma family in Indian Cr. area, N north of Ft. Jones, when working on trail (doubtful, I think). They had lion report forms but Baker did not know it. / Drove on upstream to Idlewild camps (paved road), then on road up S. Fk. of Russian Cr. (gravel then, earthy (rootable)) to Music Creek, on 4700'. Steep DFir slopes w. large Ppines, + brushy openings w. Garrya, manzanita, scrub oaks. 1-2 deer tracks seen on roads. No puma tracks found. (S. Fk. Russian had colorful small trout, about 7".) Back to main hwy. (hot day) + up paved road to summit 5000' in red fir, w. exposed rocky ridges + peaks, + patches snow on N. slopes. Eddy Gulch ridge had conifers on steep slopes but large clearcut areas w. brush. / Down thru mixed conifers to Etna, 3200 ft. Slopes to W. mostly conifers, but mixed broadleafs + rocky areas. / To Scott Mtn. summit, 5400', + down to Blue Tangle C. road. Out it 1.3 mi. + parked (dirt rd.). About 6 p.m. started hike to BT Lake, where Kelleyhouse had reported tracks in previous yrs. Sections of trail had good dust. Many cattle tracks + some deer. Creek rocky, clear, 10' across; many rainbow trout, 6". Thru DF + mixed forest up from jeep rd. to wilderness boundary, then 1½ mi. to lake. About 6½ mi. from hwy. to Scott Mtn. Cattle around lake, especially grassy flat on SW side. Patches snow on nearby slopes. Lake 5800'. Rock ridge to W. Oak + manzanita brush patches. Warmish water + mossy shallow bottom. Blue Tangle Lake

5 August 1975. Heard cry of a deer; again 100 m on; again near foot of lake. Then yearling swam out to near center of lake + finally to shore, 200 m. from starting point. Chased by bobcat? Fished briefly - 10" brook trout first (fly) cast. Rainbows here doubtful; rather marshy shores.

Margin notes: c-3 w-1 — B+W 7 Eddy G. L 0 — Ft.t. - 3 mi.

Journal

5 August 1975. Shasta Co., Calif.

Hiked back down Blue Tangle Cr. Took 10 small rainbows. (about 2½ hrs. from car up to lake.) No puma sign. | Drove then via Coffee Creek & W. side of Clair Engle Lake to French Gulch. Road nearly all paved but side roads promising. Summit about 5200' with big mixed conifers. French Gulch, 2200', in brush zone. Telephoned Ch. Rgr. at Weaverville; said no pumas detected there, but report near Shasta (town). Recreation area mostly mixed conifers, with mixed brush patches. No pumas?/ We drove on to Corning. Telephoned Mrs. Wolf at Richfield (ranch) for info on Todd Wolf. [Later telephoned him from Berkeley; requested details of records for Y. B. Wilderness. He will compile.] Drove on to Berkeley.

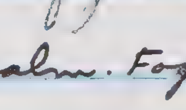
11 August 1975. Monday. Departed Berkeley 11 a.m. for Hunter Liggett Mil. R. via Hwy. 101. Traffic jam S. of San Jose so took coast route & went to Hastings Res. Discussed quail project there w. R. Gutierrez.

12 Aug. 1975. Tues. Departed Hastings & drove to Arroyo Seco [illegible]. Many areas of Nat. For. now under fire closure. Summit of road 2200'. Fog to S & E in valleys. | Hastings – RG pointed out Lion Hill area to NE in canyon w. much brush & oaks, steep slopes, deep canyons. Mostly oak grassland, however. | No one at F.S. station. Started (1100') west road toward The Indians. 20' wide road, rock, gravel, edges often good for tracking. About 10% of whole surf. area. +4 mi., 1800', I had passed about 6 parked cars – deer hunting season on. Occas. track of bobcat or 1-2 deer. Steep slopes w. oaks, grass, chaparral. Much manzanita. Clear stream in bottom. 6.3 mi., 2500', at pass where trail to [illegible] starts, puma track on inside edge road. Prob. 1 day old. Appears no traffic yet today. Measured; HF pads 47, 49 (l. 89, t 73), 48 (l. 74), 48, 48 (l. 75), 47. FF pads 53, 57, 57, 57. Mixed; 49-57 (HP, FP). Large for small ♂? Toes #2, 4 advanced. Centerheel lobe [illegible] slightly long. Tracks for 20 m. – not [illegible] tracks.

Track
no photo

Journal

12 Aug 1975. Arroyo Seco, Monterey Co.

Continued on road. No traffic at all today. Steep slopes & deep canyons, rock outcrops. + 10 mi, Hanging V., flat w grass patches, YMCA, pond, side road toward J. Serra (rough - went .3 mi & returned). + 11.6, small stream, Sky Ranch, 2800', 14.3, Escondido Camp, among large oaks, 2200', +17 mi, campground, [end road traversing] trailhead to Cone Pk. (9). Went to Indian Sta. - no F.S. people there (YWCA camp nearby.) // Drove to HLMR, Engineering, & talked to Dick McCleery. Sue Wilson working there too, temporary. Public hunting on weekends; 2 pert, 3 to go. Two fires S. of Nacimiento Rd. - one at McKern Ridge & N. in puma area. // I drove to Nacimiento Summit [S. Adm.]. Area N & S of road closed for fire prot. Headed S. on Coast Ridge Rd. Excellent dust on parts of road. Little traffic (no much sign of it (from Sunday?)). + 7.4 mi, fork to Cone Ridge, at 3200'. Tracks at inside edge road, & inside swept area 50 m. distant. Small puma (♀?). Took 2 photos. HF 43p 61t, FF 47-65±t, #2 toe HLFF adv. 1/3 over #3. HF medial lobe angular . Mod. pointed toes. Center heel lobe 1 mm adv. Rear. H Pad narrow anteriorly, 13 mm. Head pad 42 (t62), FP 96. Little toe: head 15 x 22. #2 heel 30 x 15, LFF medial p. (lobe?) wider than lat. 3450'/. I camped on Prewitt R - fog over ocean to W. Calm night./

13 Aug. 1975. Clear, calm. Fog E & W below 2000'. Walked 1/2 mile w. on Prewitt R - fresh tracks Oryctolagus; none of deer or carnivores on road. To hd. McK. trail - down it 1 mi. & hit track puma, 47 mm pad. Tracks for 200 m. along road; fresh. Size: F 52p 80t, 52p 70t, LH 57p 72t; H 48p 72t, 47p, 48p, 47p 71t., 48p, 73t. Stride about 17". Mod. pointed toes. RFF toe #2 adv. 1/3. angle, 20, LH, -47w., narrow lobe. H: #2 toe adv. 10%. Other pr. 3" apart, 19" stride, upslope 10%. Area of live oak, P. pine, madrone, broken cover. 3300'. RFFt. - ft. (52p 73t.) / On out McKern. Tracks 1 to 3 deer at X. Raccoon + large dog tracks. No traffic today. Good dust in dips. Out 1.9 mi., then back to C. R. Rd.

Track 42 mm.

2 W&W flash f 16 2 track of walker

[A20 11A-12] [NA-11]

c - 5

w 1/2

c 2.0

[different from 12 Aug]

B&W #13 in sh. w. scale strid. forgn. [2A-13] #14 same w scale p.v. stride lobes.

L. [A20: 14A-15 & BA-14]

Journal

13 Aug. 1975 HLMR, Monterey Co., Calif.

Continued tracking S. on CR rd.; stops @ 1/mi. Hunters on Plaskett R. rd. Just E. of N. Fk. willow Cr. rd., puma tracks in road again - same cat as McKerns, 1 mile distant. F 53p 83±t.; H 45p-68±t #2 toe 1/4 adv. tips, Hind. Lateral lobe hind pad narrow. H 50p 70t.; 49p 71t 82L, F 57-82-79.

LFF (lge) - angle. Tracks headed N. LFF 60p 83t. LH 50-70, wide c lobe (16mm). H 51p 70t 82l, ant. pad 22 1mm. adv. also coyote track set. Continued 400 m. or more. 3150'. RHF sharp curve. Fresh tracks - big ♀ or small ♂. | at landrover turn & ridge I found no sign or scratches. Tracked from car on S. Frequently tracks 1-2 coyotes. +7 mi (from hd. McK. trail), Burma Rd. top. On to Lion Den, where hunters camped. Back to road & S. to Three Pks. Continued 17 mi. from McK., about 3 too rocky for tracks (some S. of alder Pk.); frequent stops. Camped at gate to Lottie Potrero road.

14 Aug. 1975. Clear, calm, fog to 2000'. Walked 1/2 mile back road - One coyote tracks & saw gp. No tracks carnivores or deer. Rocky road toward Lottie P. thru sev'l yrs. old burn. 4' scrub oaks, chamise, cercocarpus, w grassy spots. Rare single site deer tracks. Along ridge. 2 1/2 mi. to potrero - rolling 10± acres grass w. oaks. 2300'. coyote tracks. Chamise patches nearby. View SE → Rocky Butte. On to Italian Flat fork, 2400'. Chaparral hills to E. Road dips w. good dust - many Dipodomys tracks. No deer tracks. Oak grassland patches 1/2 sq mi. at +6.2 mi., descended from ridge. Chamise, digger p., coarse grass - dry & poor. Rocky soils. Saw 1 deer | Hit S. Creek rd. at 1400'. Oaks, manzanita, dry rocky creeks, chamise on steep slopes. Too rocky for good tracks; occas. spot tracks. Hded. N. at jct. w. Nacimiento R., big clear still pools, 100' high rock outcrops, oaks, digger pine. Continued up canyon - much grass, blue oaks. Hit paved road. On along foothills past branches to Los Burros, Burma, & McKern Rds. Much of area to W. recently

Margin notes:
RW #15 same LFF p. 72 Hd. wide - lat lobe) ? c. fl. LFF
#16 L wide - R w/ wider pads 57, 82± LH 72 t, 51 p 5mm dust - flat
C. - 14
W - 1/2
C - 4

Journal

14 Aug. 1975   HLMR, Monterey Co., Calif.

burned. Most of road excellent deep dust, no today traffic. Tracks
a – 8 mi. raccoons & coyotes. / I drove on to King City & Berkeley. Found
tracks on Arroyo Seco road, one nr Pruett R., another at hd. McK. trail.

20 August 1975.   Sta. Lucia Range & HLMR, Monterey Co. Calif.

Departed Berkeley 3 pm. & drove via King City and Jolon to Nacimiento Summit,
then S. 3 mi. on ridge road to camp. Calm, warmish, mosquitoey night.

c.t. 1 (o.w.) 21 ~~15~~ Aug. 1975. Drove, tracking (good dust n c +) to Pruett R. jct., 1.4 mi. Often
c.t. 3 mi. (n.t.) track 1 deer, occas. bobcat, coyote. Continued to McKern trail and 3 mi.
farther, to knobcone pine corner & ridge. No puma tracks; turned back N. to
McKern jct. 0.0 and started down to E. 5-20% surface trackable; stops 10/mi.
+1.7, tracks of small puma: pads H 43, F 50. Stride 18". at dip in
road where side jo draws entered upward, just before steep pitch. LH 47p 82L,
toe #2 1/5 adv.; toes most rounded. C. lobe pad 1mm. longer. — 8od 9½"; 20"
stride, on 10% downslope. LH, med. pad more angular (LH) fairly sharp; ~~47p~~
pad 44, length 79. ~~pad 4 ... 74~~ Tracks continued for at least 70 m. HF 43 p 65t. FF
R#1 pad only 47. Photo #1: 43p-69t-78L. Fr. 54p, 72t, 75L. width ant. end
R#2 pad: H 20 F 30 mm. Photo #2: Hp 45, t 73, l 83; Fp 53-t 77-l 77. FL, no
sharp lat. angles to pad. / Tracks est. 1 day old. ~~Prob.~~ = same (or 8/13?) as at hd. McK. last wk. 8/13?
Mixed chaparral, rocky, bare ground; old burn area — brush short. 3300'. //
Probably no daily traffic thru McK road. Occas. tr. 1 deer, bobcat, fox. Saw 1 Lepus. Tracked
on to high point where yagi (F&G tracking) antenna (+3.2 from top). Tracks big bear there, + fresh
tracks of much smaller bear (♀? or big cub); McCleery + Sue Wallen did not know of more than
KR#3 → Cow Ph. one bear. / Road descended to E — deer tracks increased, often 1-2. More coyote tr. c 700'.
+5.3 mi., side rd. N. (RMS sta.?).
~~Jct. at bottom 5.3 from start.~~ 2000', oaks, digg. pine, grass. +7.9 mi. to jct.
C. tr. + adam. 10 mi. at bottom (Los Burros rd.); small sign RMS site J.11. / Saw 2 adult Aquila
soaring above valley oaks — grassland. / Went to HLMR office & talked w.
McCleery & S. Wallen. She said fire had burned part of small basin. Miguel &

Journal

21 August 1975. (Thurs.) HLMR, Monterey Co., Calif.

Anthony Cr. heads, where recent relocation. Also said one located recently between Pruitt & Alma ridges. She said she had been on 2 plane flights where 4 cats relocated; I doubt any such in monthly reports. [not until Aug. rept.] A rancher said puma killed more sheep nr. San Lucas. / Drove to foot Burma Rd., 0.0, 1500' & started up thru recent burn, spot tracking, to 2100' (RM550 road branch); 1.4 mi. Then more through. Old burn

c. tr. + 5.c. 5 mi.

w. short chamise & manzanita, & some new burn. At +1.9 mi., branch R. to antenna atop burned prominent hill; I went up & back, about 2 mi. Then took lower branch / 2500'; on top of new burn. Old burn, short brush & 30% grass, digger p. About 6 mi. up, side road S. past terraced slate; good tracking? Road more gravelly. +6.2, coast ridge rd., 3250'. This road much poorer than McKern for tracking. / Drove N., spot checking — ridge road gravelly, tho spots are good, to near Miguel c/g. Camped at start Pruitt R. rd., 3400'.

22 August 1975. Warm, mosquitoey, calm. Fog to 2000±'. 0 at Pruitt ridge. +.8 mi., track at foot short sideroad on ridge. Other under pile of brush (marker? F&G). Prob. about 4 days old. 3300'. (Valley oak + grass, for 5+ acres here.) HF 43p 69t 76l, F 50±p 70±t 76l. Same as McK. or ft Pruitt last wk? H 42p t 64± l 63. #2 toe adv. # 20% F 50%.

c. t. 2 mi.

No photo. / .2 mi. on to Pruitt - Alma jct. Checked for tracks nr. Prew. c/g (records). Large area grassland (50%) here & on S. slopes generally, above fog level. N. slopes have thick broadleaves + Doug. firs, some redwoods. / Down Alma R. rd. (N slope) Partly good dust, then largely old blacktop. Descended to 2550', where dark forest (50') w. little undergrowth. 1.2 mi. Then back up, headed S., checked 500 m. at head McKern tr., to Plaskett R. jct., 0.0, 3200'. Hard dirt but thin dust layer. More traffic here (deer season on); heard rifle shots seid x. Pine, oaky mixed brush. Tracks, occas. 1 coyote or 1-2 deer. On Willow Cr. side ridge, mostly old burn w. short 3' chamise & scrub oak. 3100'. +2.5 mi., 2700';

c-3

road started down ridge. Large grass openings — over 50% grass. Road gravelly but trackable sides. Many cattle tracks. 2600', +3.4 mi., wooden

Journal

22 Aug. 1975. Centr. Monterey Co. Calif.

KR 7 N C*
comp. Pk.
Frem. R.
Pl. R.

road. Back to CK rd. + S; spot ck. 5/mi. S. to alder Cr. rd. jct., [23 5 01] 3450' Down it 1.7 mi. to jct., 3050; then old burn, then 1.4 mi. down to alder Cr. c/G. Oaks,

C. Tr. 2 mi. at

sycamores, shade, no stream flow now, 2300'. / Returned to jct. & down ridge

C. Tr. 3 mi. at

road to W. 1 mi., to 2800' - part 2 burn; ~~tq~~ also one on c/G rd. - into N. slope

c. tr. !

broadleaves & DF. (then steeper down to W - I turned back E.) Good dust at sides of road. / Drove back to Lions Den jct., ld. Salmon Cr. canyon. Cove more extensive than alder cr. - more brush, larger oak trees. On to head of Burro Rd. 0.0 3300' & started down. Steep; probably could not ascend - rocky road. .8 mi; dropped 700'. Open chaparral, old burn, mostly chamise, occas. oak trees. Poor

c^-2

dust & tracking. Occas. deer tracks. Appar. rare traffic. + 3.5, 1700'; crossed rocky creekbed (here w. Weaver in Oct. '73). Then up & over hill in largely oak-grass area and down ~~to~~ E. Dust good last half mile, about 1500', before hit jct. (6.1 mi. from top). / Office spot - kill maps some 180 deer taken had about 20 in

m_c^{-17}

the F & G study zone; slight concentration in Wizard Gulch area. / I drove to King City, then toward Coalinga on good paved road thru oak-grassland hills w. minor chaparral.

Fresno Co.

23 August 1975. Drove E. past Fresno. Drove up King's River thru Trimmer. At Balch P.H. pipe, 2900'; chaparral & oaks; apparently pumas rare in summer at this level. Road 25' paved width but tenuously traceable. At 3200', conifers started. 4150', Black Rock sta. Hot today. Rested at campground nr. reservoir, in granite basin, fed by penstock mostly. / Up road toward Wishon. Paved for 1.8 mi. to Black Rock Cr. (Haas P.H. rd. branch). 4700'. Then light gravel - much recent travel by cars. (Start 4150') Coarse sand. Penstock crossed 5000'. Occas. one deer track. (Archery season open.) Saw 1 doe. At 5400', hairpin curve (with big ~~turnout~~)

tracks

opposite Rancheria Falls, tracks adult male puma on inside of curve, in spite of traffic. Also 100 m. up road, including damp sand by road. All head E. Front pad 62 LH }. C. lobe long + 23 wide. Cast 2 tracks in

Journal

23 August 1975. Sat. N. Kings R., Fresno Co., Calif.

[= 8-9] KR 4 -5 wet sand - half ft. of ran in photo, single in photo. KR 4, 2 tracks; 62 p 93 t

+ 2 casts 89? l; 69 p 97 t 95 lng. KR 5: single [= 1?] 67 p 87 t. a track in fair register,

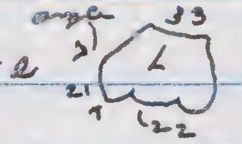
61 p and 72 p. Min. pad dim. 58 H 66 F (on downslope). / On up to Rock-Polished (but #2 not so extended!)

Vista Point, 5600', 3.5 mi. from Haas PH jct. (0.0), where Erik & I found tracks on last visit.

Same track on inside curve, and fresh (1-2 days) on outside of curve, where

broke thru crust (sprinkle a few days ago) into dust + headed N. away

from road on sidehill (pine tree ± 167 pointed). 61 p (H) 89 t 95 l



(~~toward~~ in angled side pad always lateral?). Toe #2, 1/4 adv. over 3. ~~Same~~ Stride to

24" max. / at 6000', center road, possible track 67± toe. / Teakettle

Cr. (+5.5 mi.), found no tracks - but much traffic. One here prev. trips.

c. 4 / Drove on up the sidewalk road to Wishon Dam - mostly too hard; better w.

more traffic. On to area Rancheria Cr. to camp.

24 Aug. 1975. (Sun.) Hiked to Statum Mdw., about 3 mi. about 45 min. to

Statum Cr., 7440', mostly along sidehill in dark red fir forest. Much foot +

cattle traffic. Above St. Cr., spaced ponderosa p. + ceanothus, manzanita.

Saw Oreortyx, including several half-grown young. Gps. to 8± - saw at

least 3 gps. Into lodgepole p. - aspen, 7900'. Foot Statum Mdw. 8100'.

tr. ft. 4 mi Walked 1/2 mile up ridge trail to E. of it - good dust. One bear track. Constant

1-2 deer. Turned back at 8200', about 1 1/2 mi. before Spanish Lake. Some archery

hunters camped in area. Returned to trailhead, partly cross country thru pines +

brush. / Then to Marlwood Mdw. camp. No F + G people there.

25 Aug. 1975. Monday. Returned to Berkeley via Los Banos, after hike

tr. ft. 1 1/2 (rt) up to ridge E. of Bald Mtn. from road summit, 6500'-7350', on well-used

trail. Tracks people + dogs, no pumas. Good view down Dinkey Cr.

27 Aug. 1975. Wed. To Colusa Co., Calif.

Departed 3 p.m. and drove via hwy. 5 + Maxwell to a few mi. S. of Stonyford;

camped opposite foot Goat Mtn. rd. Bullfrog pollywogs in pools in creek. Foothill

Journal

27 Aug. 1975 Nr. Stonyford, Colusa Co.

area blue oak - digger pine - grassland, w. occasional patches chamise on slopes.
E. Park Reservoir not visible from road, but acres of Typha near S. end.

28 Aug. 1975. Thurs. To Ranger Sta. at Stonyford, quiet very small town, where talked w.
27-yr. employee Phil Shemmel and young Resources officer Andy Taylor. Phil had little
specific about pumas except that former state hunter Lyle Simpson lived near Lodoga cemetery.
Phil said Black Diamond road open to washout 1½ mi. NE of Lower Gap. Also a dirt road up
St. John Mtn. might be good for tracks. Very talkative man. Said that deer migration came thru
Open Ridge area + Elephant Hill. Also that Snow Mtn. was S. limit of red fir in N. coast R. / Taylor
had the mt. lion rept. forms + remembered various reports in past years - Pine Ridge Cr. rd.,
Deafy Glade, Knuckle Ridge rd. (marked R in red on map). No recent reports from Goat Mtn. area,
tho thought formerly. I encouraged them to send in reports this year. / Then drove N. via
Elk Cr. to Willows, Richfield, + Samuel Wolf Ranch ½ mile S (yearlings, ewes, 1500 sheep) to talk
w. Todd Keeler (Wolf son-in-law) about puma repts. in N. Yolla Bally Mtns. He had specific
sightings as reported in senior dissertation (UCSC), including photo of kill in Long Gulch.
about half of upper side ribs broken off, others cleaned; ½ gr. fetus + amnion removed
but uneaten (later found partly consumed). Area W. of Tomhead Mtn. Also tracks in that
area spring of '73, + on Sanford Ridge trail in June '71. This an area apparent concentrat-
ion. Thought Valentine R. road + Hoaglin ridge had good potential for tracks. Another
apparent area frequency between Ball Mtn. - Patton Mill - Hensley Glade. They did little work
on Trinity Co. side but tracks 1971 on Doe Ridge. Big track 1969 Nov. near Solar Cove (S.
Yolla B. Mt.). Trinity side much chokecherry rather than chaparral. E. slopes pond.
pine, black oak - seemed to be main puma habitat - and chaparral more as de-
scended. Rail Canyon, I recd. Todd about 30, hoping to do graduate work; will be
in Berkeley this fall. Recently spent 2½ mos. in New Guinea, several months in S. Pacific.
/ We loaded up w. supplies + then drove N. to Mt. Shasta, camped at Panther Meadows,
+ took conditioning hike up to 9400' level. Many Gopher burrows there and Citellus
lateralis. Rain in entire area Mon. + Tues., + light snow above 10000' elev.

Journal

29 Aug. 1975. Fri. Mt. Shasta, Shasta Co., Calif.

Panther Mdws. in pure red fir zone. Scrubby pines (whitebark?) to 9400' on S. slopes. Patches of snow on mountain. Tame Citellus lateralis at camp area.

30 August 1975. Sat. Rolf, Carla; Jerry B, arrived last night. We re-organized gear & all (Sue & I, Bonnie B) hiked up ski lift route to about 9400' and set up camp. Heard Clarke nutcracker. C. lateralis at camp too tame, nuisance. Whitebark pines to that level. No vegetation above. Camped. Overcast but cleared 7 p.m.

31 August 1975. Sunday. 26° in morning; clear, calm. Departed 6 a.m. & hiked to top of Mt. Shasta (14100') via the popular route, with dozens of other people. Much of route on old snow, but route clear on ridge above 13000'. At top, about 20 people. One Citellus lateralis, very dark brown & very fat, getting nuts & other food from people — apparently ~~only~~ survived there, with long hibernation. About 6 hours climb, often w. rest every 50 steps. Crampons useful but not necessary. Fine views tho smog rose & clouds increased. Descended, glissading ½ mi. or more on old snow. Returned to Panther Mdws. Camped. Mt. Shasta, Shasta Co.

1 Sept. 1975. We slept late. Then visited Mt. Shasta trout hatchery. On Mt. S. road, many chokecherries w. heavy crop red berries now. Red fir mostly down to about 6000'. Lower limit puma in summer may be near 4000', judged by reports & vegetation. / Alt to Castle Crags St. Park. Man at entry post said no puma records there. / Blackberries ripe & abundant. Castle Creek clear. Much traffic on Castella road by archery hunters. / Split groups. Sue and I drove via Castella to Girard L.O. via road 38N14. 5½ mi. to crest (4100'); about 4½ dirt. Dark forest mostly on Sacto. R. side. Spot checked for tracks. On ridge, mixed DF, IC, Wh. F., Red F., Bl. Oak, oak & manzanita brush. / L.O., ♀ 60± yrs., 15 summers there. In Sept. 1965, small puma had come close to L.O., apparently after small brown dog. (Puma seen in area a week

Journal

1/2 Sept. 1975. Mon. (Labor Day) Shasta Co., Calif.

KRS? G. ridge → mt. S. Infor. Tracks seen 17 Sept. Early in deer season. 21 Sept., dog nervous, ran back & forth in brush (chokecherry largely). She saw puma poorly in brush, late in day. Shot at it w. .22 rifle. Called Bradley LO who called FCO, Bob Gray. He & Men from Pollard Flat came. Found cat dying, 300 yds away on ground. 6' max length; she has skin. Said a young cat. She said possible tracks on Sweetbrier Ridge, next one to S. She deplored decrease in game - bears, deer. Anti hunting. She said thought report from Hirz Mtn. LO this year. She said area SE c-2 of Girard R. primitive, rare travel. She had 3 dogs now, including large German shepherd. Knew many other lookouts. / Sue & I then drove via Sweetbrier (Sims) road, dirt, 39 N13, thru mixed forest near ridge-tops. About 5 mi. down, road gravelled & oiled, apparently logging tr. c-2 operation, road closed daytime. / First drove E on Girard Ridge about 4 mi., spot checking. Vegetation good mixture conifers, brush; coyote tracks; road too hard for good tracking (better in deer season?). Rolf & I checked here last year. / Camped in c/g near Sims. Sacto. River clear & low, mossy in flat stretches. Hazel Cr. clear & running well.

2/3 Sept. 1975. Tues. walk Sue & I explored Means Ridge road, entering at Sims; 4 1/2 mi. to ridge. About 3 1/2 up, bear tracks. Lower parts road hard & rocky, RC 2. Rain sprinkle from 31 Aug. visible on dust. Only 1 car track. 4.2 mi. up, Stuckey's retreat (cabin?); then .1 to start Means R. jeep trail - I tr. - ft. 1/2 c - walked it 1/2 mile to ridge 3900'. Parts good tracking dust. Jeep trail up sharp ridge. Ridge mixed conifers + black oak, DF. - little tracking ground. Flume Cr. road to N. (visible across) probably better. Found no scats or scratches (alleged report area). Returned downslope to Sacto. R. & drove back to Berkeley. To Glenn Co.

8 Sept. 1975. Departed Berkeley for Mendocino Nat. F. at Willows, enroute.

Journal

8 Sept. 1975 Willows, Glenn Co., Calif.

John Lorenzana of USFS. He had plotted all lion reports 1973-1975; I obtained copy + plotted locations. Report of sheep killing #40 in Pacific Ridge area; & carrying kitten reported near Soapstone Ridge. / Drove to Elk Creek, then a mile S. + up Ivory Mill rd. 20N01. Paved road. at foot grade, 1500', blue-oak grassland. At 2000', N-facing slope blackoak + oak thickets, S. slope chaparral + Digger P. 2500' P pine + Doug. fir on N-aspect slopes. 3000' - solid forested DF forest about 50' high on N slopes, chaparral + tree clumps on S slopes. Ivory Mill Saddle (summit 4600'. / PP+DF forest; logging trucks. / I drove down Corbin Cr road about 3½ mi. Not maintained; rocky + mostly spotty tracking. Parked ½ mi. before Corbin Cr. + walked about 2 mi. down road, looking for puma tracks. Found track ad. ♂? ¼ before Corbin Cr., near foot Kemp Ridge. 3500'. Toes 81 pad 56 (L H?), Toe 2 ado. 50%. Long pad, smooth curve sides. C lobe heel 20 mm wide. About 10 tracks found over 200 m. road, heading N. / Just beyond Corbin Cr. (clear, running, 5" trout), second track, ♀ size. toes 67 length 73, Hp 47 t 65, p 47 t 67 l 77, t 67 l 73. Angled lateral curves + lateral heel lopes. C lobe heel wide, 18 mm. Heading S. All tracks est. 3 days old; room for detailed shape of heelpads. Walked down beyond Happy C. ridge, then back to car.

10 Sept. 1975. Afto High stratus overcast, calm. Logging traffic on crest road. / Lorenzana, yesterday, said few reports from Mt. Sanhedrin are mostly private land where hunters not allowed; many deer. He thought many deer, + little hunting, in Jones Ridge area to co. of Middle Eel wilderness; probably pumas but no reports. John had made maps of deer summer + winter ranges on Mendoc. N.F. / Large deer track near lion track on Corbin Cr. rd. yesterday. Also coyote tracks. / Drove S. on Pacific Crest from Ivory Mill Saddle. 1 mi., Bear tracks. Edge of road held tracks deer, coyote. / I took Happy Camp Ridge rd. Rocky but little use. .5 mi. down, puma tracks in road. Mod. open Doug. fir w. PP, IC, 5150' elev. apparently same as large track on Corbin rd yesterday. F 60p 85±t H 55p 80±t < > rod. H 56p - 80t - 95l. 42mm. H 53 55 p 77t 85l. / RH 55-78-95;

Journal

~~9~~ 10 9 Sept. 1975 — Mendocino N.F., Glenn Co., Calif.

35⟨ ⟩; T#2 adv. 50% (post border). | RH 53p 74t 93l 38⟨ ⟩ 18 agin. ~20 wide.

o. track — LH 56-77-90l. / RH 55p RF 62p. ~~Medial lobe~~ ⟨ Toe #2, 40-50% adv.

Stride 18-22"; lead 5". LH 54p 77t lat (pad). / RH 38° 18 lat. / LH, lateral side pad. Tracks for 10 m. on dusty car track on curve. Also a few deer tracks. / .6 mi. on, 4-ridged track. 45p 66t 75l. Medial side w.). Photoed. Only 5 m. Tracks est. 3 days old. / A sprinkle of rain, 11 a.m.; solid stratus sky. Went on 2 miles from start (to 4600'); rocky; rain increased; returned to ridge. / Then on to Brushy Camp R. rd. start 5450'. Rain prevented good tracking. Sharp curve 3.7 mi. down where track earlier this summer, none now. 5.2 mi down, jct. (4900') with lower Hayward Cr. road to N. Drove in 2 mi., parked, walked down 1 mile to 3600'. Road drying fast. Returned to Pacific Ridge via Hayward R. — hard dirt & gravel, 5 mi. / Slowly clearing. Drove S. to Summit Rd. toward Snow Mtn. & camped at head of Bear Cr. rd. Clear & calm by 8 p.m. / Saw 2 C. stelleri today, heard Sciurus, saw eaten sugar pine cones (= T. douglasii ?).

(margin: 25 LH 54p 77t. w. label / RH 54p RH label. medial L. / RR 7-8-F16 fl / small tr.)

10 Sept. 1975. 6/10 alto stratus, calm. Started down road → Lower Nye Camp, from 5200' in mixed conifers. Road partly graveled but sides good for tracking; RC 3. At 4000', black oaks among conifers. Sp. 6 or + Oreortyx at 4000'. Traffic + rain = little of tracks only; saw new ones, occas. 1 deer. 3800', 4 1/2 mi. down, mostly oaks & manzanita. 6 mi. to Lower Nye camp, 3300' - oaks, areas conifers, areas chaparral. Continued to Skeleton Glade trail, 2800', 1.6 mi. farther on. Road fairly hard, not good tracking. So returned up road. Took Benny Flat Loop 18N28, 2.6 mi., but also too hard; a spur led down S. side of Cold Cr. canyon. / To head of Cold Cr. trail & walked 1/4 mi down; ~~tracks~~ droppings of bear. Sp. of Oreortyx. Also went 1/2 mile down Pole Bar Gate road; again only RC + to 3. Out Long Ridge road; also hard dirt, road about 1.8 mi., 5100' to 4600'; little use now. On to start of Lower Anderson ~~Cr~~ Ridge rd. — rain set in & increased,

(margin: c.t. 7 1/2 mi. / tr. ft. 1 mi / c. 2)

Journal

~~10~~ 11 Sept. 1975. Mendocino N.F., Glenn Co., Calif.

so gave up tracking. Down Co. road 308, narrow winding thru conifers via Dixon orchard (small cleared flat); tracking potential; even at lower levels. Continued on back to Berkeley.

12 Sept. 1975. To Dinkey Creek, Fresno Co.

With the wife Sue, drove to Marlwood Mdw. w. of Dinkey Creek in evening.

13 Sept. 1975 Saturday, & my 60th birthday, drove to Woodchuck (0.0) trailhead and started tracking hike to Pearl Lake area across Blackcap quadrangle. +1h 20 m, a small clear creek, 7200'. Red fir, P pine, Lp pine. Many chickarees (?) eaten cones of ponderosa. Occas. trails 1 deer; mod. human + some horse + cattle tracks. +3 hrs., jct. Fuyer Road trail, 9400'. Lodgepole pine area. Past branch N. to Woodchuck (Moonbay Camp here), + on up to Chimney L. branch, 9400'; + 4½ hrs. Chimney L. (5± Acres), grass + willow edges, shallow, muddy mossy bottom; 3/8 mi N. of main trail. I saw 2 Marmots at mouths burrows at foot large pines in mod. open forest. Continued on up trail to Woodch. L. branch (9 mi. from trailhd?), + in 1 mile to W. Lake, about 6½ hrs from start. 10±A, shallow borders, meadow at S. end, & some granite shore. Many rainbow trout jumping + rising; all seemed small, about 4" long only. Saw Clark nutcrackers. Large owl at dusk. Overcast increasingly during day, & threatened to rain, but cleared in night. Good
Ft. 9 mi. trail dust for tracking most of the way, but no puma sign, some dog tracks.

14 Sept. 1975. Sunday. Still 2 wks. to deer season here. Sue + I hiked on 40 min to @ Crown Pass, 10188 ft., from where saw Crown Lake (7± A.) (shallow, meadows around it) and LeConte Divide peaks to E. Lodgep. p. mostly. Then 40 min. on & down to Halfmoon Lake, about 10 A, deep; granite slopes on SE side, pines around other shores. Fair no. Brook "trout." Clear water. | Hiked on thru mod. open Lp. pine forest (red mountain spice) to jct. w. N. Fk. Kings R. Rainbows + some brook trout to 8" plentiful; clear stream, 4 m. wide. Then on thru forest near stream to Portal Lake, small + shallow but some 7" trout; meadows, Lp. pines.

Journal

14 Sept. 1975. Sunday. Pearl Lake, Fresno Co, Calif.

We ascended ridge & looked into Crown Basin, then climbed to Midway Lake, 10 600'; barren
2 KR shores, spectacular cirques of granite to E. Then on along contour to Pearl Lake, 10 600'
about 1/4 mile across, granite peninsula on E. At 5 p.m., trout rising near shore; took 2
on flies - 9-11" rainbows, chunky build; probably some larger present. Most of lake
tr. ft. 8 mi. seemed <10' deep, but saw only W. shore. Meadows around lake but not trees. Marmot
droppings often seen on rocks. Walked about 12 mi. today. Overcast p.m.; dead [illegible].

15 Sept. 1975. Fished 1 hr. but no catch. Departed Pearl L. to N. Fk. down
slope; open lodgepole forest, many large trees, damp underneath; moderate
ft. 6 mi. deer sign. Nutcrackers, crows. Walked back to Halfmoon Lake, 4 hrs. Constant
search for puma sign, but dogs only (incl. coyote) - such tracks may account
for track reports by USFS in this area. Then up to Crown Pass & on to Woodchuck - Halfmoon jct., where camped in L.p. pines. Cleared at night.

16 Sept. 1975. Continued on to Woodchuck trailhead. Drove to Berkeley. On way
ft. 6 mi. down, around 7000-7500', much sign squirrel activity, cone cores - [illegible]
pile (P. pine). Heard [illegible] about 7000'. Also bear & cattle tracks. If puma
present, seem most likely on Wishon L. slopes. To Lake Co.

20 Sept. 1975. Sat. Drove from Berkeley via St. Helena to Upper Lake, &
on to Lake Pillsbury (1800'). Last 15 mi., from Elk Mtn. Summit (3300'), included much
old burns w. short shrubs, probably poor cover for pumas. Last 15 mi. not
paved but hard, w. rocks. Then to NE to Bloody Rock area (20 N01), &
down B.R. road to Eel R., about 2 mi. Cont. 1 mi., then walked. Oak - digger
pine zone mostly; grassy openings. But shade [illegible] - road [illegible]
track river. Found puma track about 200 yds. from Eel R., on road. Helped 50 Hp
[illegible]. Traffic cannot [illegible], so few [illegible] - est. 2 days old.
2500' elev. - below conifer belt. Good mix of shrubs - mt. mahogany,
scrub oak, chamise; steep slopes, rock outcrops, water, deer tracks
(just after deer season, this was a game refuge). Smooth dry dust on

Journal

20 Sept. 1975. N. Lake Co, Calif.

tr. - c - 1 / pt. 1½ / (rt) — sideroad. Previous report puma in area. | Back to Eel R. rd. & camped nr. foot of Corbin Cr. About 80° at Upper Lake; hot in canyons.

21 Sept. 1975 - Sunday. Cirrus clouds, calm. Walked up Corbin Creek from Eel R. about ½ mi., expecting to find old road, but found none. Deer tracks in sand. Clear running creek w. occas. small trout in Mud gray rock. Back to road & drove N. to Low Gap (nr Round Mtn.), 3900', & took Knee Cap R. rd. Graveled but dust edges; spot tracking 5/mi. Parts good dust later. At 5500', 6 mi up, tracks large black bear, .7 mi. before Glenn Co. line. 7 mi., jct. w. log rds. & Co. rd. 311. Took that one, good dust, 2.3 mi. - then 311 down to E. & at took road to S., .8 mi., now graveled road toward Sheetiron Mtn. More bear tracks, large. About 5 mi., Sawy mill saddle. Drove down paved road E. to Elk Grove, & back to Berkeley. | Tracking judged adequate for 1-2 day old tracks on Kneecap R. Did not explore sideroads, some prob. good.

Tracked pt. - 1 / sw. - 5 mi.

22 Sept. 1975. Mon. Berkeley to Kings R., Fresno Co. Departed B. & drove with Erik via Madera to Crown Valley trailhead nr Wishon Reservoir. In evening hiked up trail to Statum Mdws., 8100', & camped. Deep dust on trail & had been foot & horse traffic. Deer season opens 27th. |

w - 2

23 Sept. 1975. Tues. Light frost. Hiked on to Spanish Lake, cross country to Rogers Cr. at Tehipite trail, then on to Tehipite Valley, arriving about 4 p.m. Good tracking on trails most of way. Saw tracks of large & small bear. No sign of puma. A packer said rarely sees sign of one on Tehipite trail. Rogers Cr. to dropoff mostly thin dark non-climax white fir forest, little undergrowth except nr. clearings such as Frost mdw. Hunters camped nr. trail - horses, dogs. | Middle Fork Kings R. low below Silver Creek, but clear. Fine rainbows - took 6 from one pool. Sizes to 11". Away from river, hot & many flying gnats. Drops in trail last 3 mi. over 3000', thru

r.t. - 8 mi.

Journal

23 Sept. 1975.   Tehipite Valley, Fresno Co.

mixed conifers, then black oaks, valley oaks, even yucca. But some big yellow pines on floor of valley. We were only ones there. Dusty trails, deer tracks.

24 Sept. 1975. Wedn. Stayed in valley & explored downstream where river faster, w. many pools & boulders. No regular trail. / Departed up the hill 1245. At top 2 3/4 hrs. later. Then on to Crown Valley, watching

Ft. 8 mi. for tracks. Bear tracks again, & deer, dog. No puma sign, tho many sites appeared good for scratches. Dark overtook us near Cr. V. Sta., so camped there about 8000' in lodgepole p. Much of high country in 7-9000' elev. area is "desert," little undergrowth.

25 Sept. 1975. Hiked on to Crown V. trailhead nr. Sugar Pine hill,

Ft. 6 mi via Statum Mdw. Many cars & horse trailers now, & saw pack train of hunters. Hot day. Drove back to Berkeley.

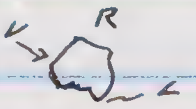
30 Sept. 1975. Tuesday Drove Berkeley to Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co. Discussion w. Sam McMillan. A puma recently shot by a Mexican in Adelaide area. Another depredation permit issued for Dover Canyon area. / Quail - Sam thinks will be scarce near house this winter, as low food supply elsewhere. Also estimates only about 35 juv./100 ads. in population. / Three years good rainfall in row. But dry summer, & all looks very dry now. Good barley crop harvested and cattle good shape.

1 October 1975. Wedn. Drove via Santa Maria to Figueroa Mtn. area, Santa Barbara Co. Lower country grazing, live oak - grassland. Or around, short chaparral patches, digger pines. Road paved. At Fig. Sta., talked w. man (-Stone?) about lions; he told me that one shot on Zaca Ridge in August; ♀; F & G took only head; presumably examined for rabies. He said saw lion tracks on Zaca R. rd. / I went to LO & talked w. Kim Walton, who lived near (or on) Tunnell Ranch. Walton said he saw 2 adult pumas there about July 1975, & reported them. He said saw one imm. condor at LO this year. / I went out

Tr. — car - 1 KR 16 → 7 Mck. + San R. mts Catway road, starting 3700'. Dirt w. old gravel & parts old blacktop. Tracks bar-

Journal

1 October 1975 — Santa Barbara Co., Calif.

skunk, bobcat, fox, quail, deer. (Season over 2 wks.). Car tracked one side, occasional stops. Area of live oak, yellow pine, shrubs. After 2 mi., more wide chaparral, occas. grass & oaks; road atop ridge. / about 3 (4.1) mi out, puma tracks on side road (±200'). Area good, pine, live oak, grass patches. Hind 45 p 72 t, 85 b F 52 p 73 t. Med. ptd. toes. #2 toe lead 10%.  More hind p 44, 48, 44 F 52, 50. / 3 (4.5) mi out, Zaca Pk. rd. to W. Variable gravelled. ~~Bobcat tracks almost constant.~~ +6 mi., turnout & trail to W. & more of same tracks, all est. 2 days old. 3700'. Took photos tracks. / Then, 100 yds. on, on road around dusty slope, more of same tracks, newer & older sets, and at least 4 larger & older, pads 52 + 63 (old & large). At next crest, on spur (RH10, 54) to W. (view down to Zaca Lake), more tracks about same small size (hind pad 45-6), & a few larger. Road then more gravelly. End 7.8 mi. out, at ~~north~~ (west) Wildhorse Mtn.; trail on. In manzanita, scrub oak, chamise, & rocks atop ridge, parallel ridge W. of Zaca Lake. Backtracked 1 mile & camped atop ridge.

2 October 1975 Clear, calm, warm atop Zaca Ridge. Good view. Name [illegible]. Back to spur – some definitely larger, 62± pad. None new. Also deer & bobcat tracks. Back to low point – no new tracks, but many diff. ages so confusing. Some on trail heading W. Possibly 2 ♀-sized cats. Photoed tracks. Hind tr. 44 p 70 t, 75 l. Coulter & digger pines, + Ponderosa, P. pine. / Back to start + 4 mi., more tracks. Big one 55 p 80 t.; also 58 p. Smallest (this dust): 41 p 64 t. Judged ♂ + ♀, but more than one trip over recent days. Many at start Zaca Pk. branch road. ~~about 1/4~~ mile out, still 2 sizes, smaller about (H) 45 p 64 t; larger 52 p 74 t (F 60 p 80 t.). Again possibly 2 smaller cats – parallel tracks but one set older (1 day + 3 days?). Out Zaca Pk. branch. 3 mi., only one set: (H) pad 41, 42, 44 (+67), 44, F p 52±. At low pt. road, .9 mi. out, no puma tr. but deer + bear. .5 mi. up grade to end road; then trail. / Heard pygmy owl several times. / Spot tracked back to main road (gravel & oil) & drove to Cachuma Sta. Then down paved road to Davy Brown Camp, about 2000', area of dry shrubs on slopes, oaks + syc-

Tracks

2? R. 17 tracks 18

19 stride – 20 tracks

car - 5 mi. foot - 1 mi

+ small tr.

Kodachrome ↑

+ whole Kodachr. 1/60 f.4 pine, [illegible]

47 p 74 t

+ 44? p 70 t.

ad. ♂ + ♀

tr. - car 1 w - 1/2

Journal

2 October 1975   Santa Barbara Co., Calif.

amores in bottom. Slow mossy water in creek. Digger pines. | Opposite horse
w 1/2 corrals, road [R18], Catway, starts up slope; dirt surface, little used. (Said
probably impassable to top.) | Cachuma Sta. – I talked w. 2 boys there. They
said man who shot lion at first announced it & said "I wanted him," & only
later said lion seemed threatening. One thought he saw puma nr. upper Happy
Cy. road. | They said they had seen 2 large bucks since deer season. || I drove down
to Cachuma Lake, then to Los Prietos R.S. & got permit for fire closure
area to N. | Then to Los Osos road & up it on way to Bluff Camp. Gate w.
lock at .3 mi. Thence one lane dirt road, variably trackable. Dry chaparral
slopes. At + 5.8 mi., Camuesa Rd. jct., 3000'; a flat on ridge. Found one
tracks pair puma tracks: H 46p, F 52p. – ♀ size. Chamise, scrub oak, manz-
anita, & grass patches. | Continued up [9N11] and .8 mi. on found similar tracks,
at roadside; est. 3 days old. Much of road too hard or rocky for tracks; spot
mi rd. – tr. 5 + sp. ch. checks only, about 2 stops/mi. At 4300', occas. gps. Pseudotsuga on N. slopes,
but no stands conifers. Huge areas chaparral & rocky slopes, apparently
good for pumas. Saw large buck deer. | Met Dick Smith coming down from
Big Pine Mtn. He reported lion tracks there but had seen no condors to-
day; gp. nr Indian Cr. apparently gone. But said earlier in year had
seen the 3 w. orange heads + a dark headed juv. | Also said saw pair of
peregrines today. | I drove on to Bluff Camp, saddle at 4600'. Area mixed
chaparral w. chamise & yucca on S. slopes.   Los Padres N.F., Calif.

Fri.
3 October 1975. Saw covey of Lophortyx at Bluff Camp, where water trickles.
On toward Bluff Camp, nr. 5000'; saw 5 Oreortyx on road. Deer & bear
tracks. Poor tracking substrate. Continued to summit, 27.6 mi. from start
of road. 6250'; 30' old yellow pines, widespread. Drove out road to W. toward
site former lookout. Where road came to cliff tops, found puma tracks,
♀ size. H 46p 80t, 46–70, 47p–77t; 88l (2 mm dust). But fine gravelly

Journal.

3 October 1975. Big Pine Mtn., S. Barbara Co.

no definition mostly poor. / Farther up road, recent tracks of ♂ size — pads 55, 52, 52; hind 50 - 88 t; front 57 p. These older, none fresh. / Road went

R3 → E

to within 200 m of old lookout site (nostalgia! from 1946). Visible slopes of Sisquoc (SW aspect) rather open sparse chaparral (probably better in side canyons). S. of Big Pine ridge, solid stands of big chaparral, much of it scrub oak. / I walked 1/4 mi. W. to first saddle; found a few puma tracks of ♀ size (pad 45). 2 possible puma scratches on trail, one at end of old log, but especially deep into soil (bear?). Many cone cores, including those of P. lambertiana, apparent work of Sciurus. Saw Sceloporus graciosus, mostly small, + one Gerrhonotus. / Back to main road. Little sign previous traffic. Slowly to Alamar Saddle, 4.3 mi. (4.5 mi) Bear tracks, no puma found. Much of road pine needle covered. Largely thin conifers including large 100' red firs, + live oaks. At Alamar S. found only bear tracks. /(21 mi. 0.20 gate to Bluff C., 4600'. 4.7 mi. to summit, 6250'.)/ Walked down Bear Camp trail 1/4 mi. thru canyon live oaks. Then on to Madulce R. trail; spot checking rd. walked out trail, thru chap., then onto top + N. side where mostly sugar pine, fairly continuous stand on slope. W. Out 1 mile. Found puma tracks, 47 pad (H) 52 pad (F); one 46 p (H) 72 t 90 l. Scratches at 2 spots in trail (deep, as near W. Big Pine); showed bilobed shape, dug 3" into soil; about 9" long + 8" wide hole. Also in dried oak leaves on ridge, 2 more, + apparent old ones (2-3). Many Sceloporus graciosus along trail; did not go clear to LO site, another mile. / Continued on toward Chokecherry Spring. Large stand canyon live oaks; saw 2 Sciurus and flock 25 ± band-tails. 1.7 mi. to Chokecherry Spr. (water in trough), and camped 2.2 mi. beyond on ridge, east of Samon Pk. San Rafael Mtns.

(probably same tr. as Big P.)

4 Oct. 1975. Sat. Clear, calm. 5400'. 2.4 mi. N. of Chokech. Spr., tracks puma on road; mixed chamise area; about 3 days old. pad 47 mm diam. On to locked gate (4.3 from Chokech. Spr.), and 1.1 to head S Barbara Canyon; trading

Journal

4 Oct. 1975. San Rafael Mts, Santa Barbara Co., Cal.

a.t. 3 mi. continuing good (RC 4). Walked 1/4 mile NE on rd. + back. Then drove toward McPherson Pk. (17 mi. by road). Coyote tracks. Covey Lophortyx. Bear + deer tracks. (From S.B. Cny.)

Through large areas grassland, the potreros; perhaps poor for lions. 4.9 mi. to

back Salisb. Potrero gate, where found puma tracks, H 47 p + F 56 p; cat crossed road near gate. Not known if a different one. On to NW, many coyote tracks, occas. bobcat. Montgomery Potrero, sandstone knolls + sandy soil; cattle +

c.t. -20 mi. coyote tracks. Good dust near Painted Rock campground; many cattle tracks.

fast - ! Drier shorter chaparral; much of ridge in grassland patches. Occas. deer or coyote tracks, but generally poor tracking on to McPherson Pk. gate, 5430'. 0.0

^ car tracked 10 mi. (17 mi. road) 18 mi. from SB Canyon head. Deer tracks near lookout. / Started tracking at Mc (od. 665 = 0.0)

fast - 1 mi P. gate. + .9 mi, puma tracks on edge road, following outer edge. Est.

3 days old. pad 43, 45 (toes 70). Tracks both ways, outer 2' of 20' wide road.

More .6 mi on. 43 p 72 t, + a mile farther on (45 p 72 t / 53 F p)!

Fr. McPherson,

7 mi to Bates C. Rd. Walked 200 m. down + back. Tracked fairly continuously on outer side road. Similarly deer tracks constantly. No car traffic at

all, tho weekend. Bear tracks at River picnic area, 4800'. Saw a gray fox

on road at 6 p.m. 3.6 mi. on, puma track est. 4 days old; 4800'; mixed

ch ♂ chamise + chaparral, rocks, manzanita. H. 50-52 p., F 55 p. Measured 12 tracks. Obviously larger than ♀ size. Both mountain + valley quail on ridge.

Camped at 4800' near Timber Pk. Clear calm night.

5 Oct. 1975. Sun. Ci + ci-str clouds 3/10. Spot tracked on to Miranda Pine

a.t. 4 mi. area (3 mi) + on a mile (opp. microwave sta.). / From Oso Gate to San Rafael

Mtn. + on to here, drove 21 mi. + found tracks near Cannusso jct, w Big

s.63 K4 Tepusq. Pk. fr. rim (ok) Pine, Madulce Ridge, 2 mi N Chokeberry, Salisb. Potr., Peak Blake Mtn area,

Timber Pk. area; counted as at least 4 cats (at least 2 ♂♂). / Digger

pines, 4800' the road descended + soon into blue oak grasslands on steep N. slopes, 2500'. /

From Hwy 166,

I then drove up the Big Rocks road toward Avenales Ranch via Canyon 35.

Journal

5 Oct. 1975. San Luis Obispo Co., Calif.

Dusty road, starting about 1500' at gate. Sections wide & hard, but edges treadable, deep dust. From gate (0.0), to Big Rock vent (2000', 1.7 mi.), to Kessel Co. road (1.8 mi.). Tracks dog, raccoon, squirrel. Onto Canyon
0.0
3.5 (4 mi. from first gate). Up this road & to locked gate at Avenales R., Kessel Co. (±4.6 mi.) 2100'. Blue oak-grassland and chamise slopes. / Then trailed 3.3
t. 11.4 mi. to PGE road. / 11.4 mi. from starting gate. / On these roads to main gate (1800', 10.4 mi. from ranchhouse). Then over Pozo Summit & thru N.F. to McMillan Ranch. Again conferred with Ian.

6 Oct. 1975. Monday. Conferred with Ed McMillan. Then drove back to Berkeley, arriving about 6 p.m.

9 Oct. 1975. Departed Berkeley for Shasta & Siskiyou counties. Rain all day. Camped nr. Dunsmuir. First big storm of autumn. Sacto. R. high, & muddy.

Shasta Co., Calif.

10 October 1975 Friday. Overcast but little rain. Visited Ranger Sta. at Mt. Shasta. Talked w. "Doc" Allred, about 70 yrs. old. He had seen pumas or sign in Shotgun - Mears creeks zone several times during last few years. Once two large cubs, perhaps 1½ yrs. old. Once large adult male. Long time this Shasta area (I have earlier letter from him), but says thinks puma was about same as 10 yrs. ago. / List of wildlife records posted in USFS office. Allred (also recent deer kill.) (& 3 others) saw one T37N R5W SE¼ S1 on 1/23/75. Barkasky in same area but NW¼ S4, est. 80-100 lbs., later in 1975. B. also saw tracks in T38N R5W NW S18 on 10/14/74. / Allred thought May-June, when deer moving up, best time to find lions that area. / Other listed records: 8/12/74, Traversi, saw 1, T40N R3W S25. Also 7/6/73, T36N R5W S5. / 3/1/74, 40N 3W SW¼ S33, Steve Deulsen [?]. Tracks 5/12/74, 36N R5W, SW¼ S.11, B. Forbes. / Allred said that last

Journal

10 October 1975 Fri. Shasta Co., Calif.

year he saw high (1ft.+) pile droppings lion in Shotgun Cr. area - surprise to him. Jack Kahl, biologist (osprey studies), said that Benhosky reported one in Little Slate Cr. road area about 2 wks. ago. / As usual, I encouraged all to send in reports of sightings & tracks. / Drove to Yreka and went to Klamath N.F. headquarters to visit biologist Larry A. Forbis. His main interest bald eagles. Nest near Seiad Valley. Roosting groups 60± near Dorris Road near Modoc Co. line. He had prepared long report for USFS on bald eagle management. / Forbis knew almost nothing of pumas. I gave him pep talk. Had kept only one report track, vague, by field man. Forbis Tolletsive. Some interest in spotted owls. /

13 Oct. 1975. Mon. To Gasquet R.S., Siskiyou Co., but closed for Columbus Day. Canyon from O'Brien (Oregon) w. douglas fir forest both sides, often dense, but side roads to higher levels where probably more pine & more open. / Drove to O'Brien, thence via Indian Creek road to Happy Camp. Road ascended to 4500', ponderosa p. & D. fir, sometimes mod. open. Descended to Happy Camp. Snow on Marble mts. / Up Elk Creek & up to Titus Ridge, 3000', Sec. 14, & camped.

14 Oct. 1975. Tues. Cold but not frosty. Fog over Klamath R. canyon. Rains (recent) had hardened roads so poor for tracking. The spots where tracks last Oct. had none! Occasional muddy spots. Poor substrate in comparison to last year about same time, when found good puma tracks here. Walked sideroads 1/4 mi. Then trailed from car w. stops about 5/mi., for 7 mi. to Titus Gap. Found tracks deer, bear, coyote or dog. Heard Sciurus often. Cirrus clouds 2/10, calm. / Saw 4 bandtailed pigeons in gap. / Drove down toward Independence Bridge at 2200', expecting to meet where puma tracks last year but found none. / Klamath River - dozens of fishermen at some sites. Went to R.S. at Happy Camp. No one seemed especially interested in wildlife and on maps (on wall) w. markers & reports,

w⁻¹ c⁻³

Klamath R. 10 from T. gaps.

c⁻¹

Journal

14 Oct. 1975. Siskiyou Co., Calif.

only puma report was 8/74 on trail E. of Titus Gap. Talked w. Richard Leslie, USFS.; lived ^m. Seiad Valley – once had puma in his yard in summer. | Called Gene Sharpe home; not in until eve. So drove S. & up Ti Bar road to Ukonom LO (not manned now). Met Steve Mullen, USFS, who said recent reports of puma at Homer Bennett place at mouth of Crapo Creek, about a month ago. Steve also said saw fresh ^puma tracks on 10-Bear road in deer season, a few wks. ago. | Drove out ^Uk. lookout road, now fairly hard & partly graveled. 4 mi. to LO. Road cond. poor (1-2) for tracks. | Drove to E. end of 13NO2, east of LO, & found it also too hard. Same for W. end of that loop road. | Drove down to Somes Bar & went to Ranger Sta. Map posted w. about a ^18 dozen pins ^(same for previous years) for puma reports. Some famous in slot nearby. || Reports: Sherrill van Hoosen – saw 1 ad. nr. house, Cap Crapo Cr., 9/12/1975. | Blade 514 on Sandy Bar Cr.; seen Oct 2, John Bolen. Map had pin near Nordheimer Flat & Butler Flat on Salmon River, ^apparently no access to river in summer. | To Humboldt Co.

w → Dillon Divide → Preston Pk. from LO

c-4

15 October 1975. Telephoned to Steve Mathher at home in Carlotta & arranged to meet him in Eureka this afternoon. Drove to Eureka & to his office at Humboldt Co. offices near hwy. 101 at S. end of town. He had recently broken his L leg in horse accident. Here since 1968, Wildlife Service, USDI, mainly predator control. He had worked in Monterey & SLO cos. mostly. One period on Glass Mtn. (when Dye & Bilton there). He said present area Del Norte to Trinity Co. (not Siskiyou) had ^much fewer lions than Monterey – ~~SB Co.~~ SLO cos., ~~th.~~ Most sign ever seen was in White Mtns., S. of Hawkinsville, in May but also August. Re Alpine – Mono Cos., he said ~~that~~ Jay Bruce had told SM ~~that~~ Bruce hunted area in 1933 and found almost no pumas. Puma nos. greatly cut down in Mono Co. & perhaps never recovered. Re bounty payments, SM thought little movement to cos. of highest payment (as Santa B.)

Journal

15 Oct. 1975. Eureka, Humboldt Co.

lthes — because fresh hide needed for mailing. Steve was last lion hunter employed by F&G. (most lions taken in 1950–57 period). Ridges vs. Canyons; Steve says not diff. betw. sexes except ♀ w. kittens may stay localized in canyon. ♂ makes stronger trail & easier to pursue w. dogs. (Deer range – probably has extended out into agricultural areas, so perhaps more pumas & sightings now; also more roads for travel & tracks. SM thinks puma hunting probably dead but suggests allow treeing w. dogs to see or photograph cats, perhaps under license or w. paid guide, but not kill cat. SM says got six at Black Mtn. in Alameda Co. One area where occasionally absent, Salinas Range (the same taken in Carmel Valley). Droppings – can tell by smell; different but distinctive even if old. In Coast R., puma rarely returns to kill, but usually in Sierras. SM says has found over 100 kills – usually eaten in thru side of ribs, then into hips from inside. (One had part head only eaten.) Pulling hair – often seen in Calif. (tho no published report). Steve finds kills when tracking puma as he stays with the dogs, does not release to chase cat. Sex tracks – can't tell except for size; even Bitten made mistakes in sexing. Cat – pets raised ate everything, including lion meat, skunks, porcupine, but not opossum. Some indication that ♂ to ♂ fight, even juv. ♂ may kill each other. Circuit – SM not think regular return over periods days. Pozo area – none around Black Mtn, but took one near Trout Creek to S. Castle Mtn. – says he did not take there. Dense woods – considered poor, but ~~[illegible]~~ poor for tracking; has found tracks where local residents unaware of pumas in area. Tracks on ridges where openings, or creek beds. Close to sea – not known to kill, but Ladshaw reported nr. San Simeon. Thinks few pumas in Del Norte co., but little experience there. Bernie –

Journal

15 Oct. 1975 Eureka, Humboldt Co., Calif.

says Burgess good hunter. Red Mtn. area had pumas that area. Matthew rather quiet & seemed not likely to exaggerate, & seemed to have few strong opinions. For mos., suggests good hunter take one area at a time & look in all the likely places for sign. Talked w. him about 2 hrs. & hope to get in field w. him when leg healed. / Departed & drove E. on Red Bluff road to Bridgeville, where I phoned (2 6081) Andy Burgess residence in Zenia; he away because of illness friend in hospital. Drove S. to near Blocksburg - rolling country w. patches grassland, oaks, stream side trees, with areas Douglas fir in shady spots on hills. Ranches, cattle country. Saw several deer in evening, perhaps eating acorns now. Many small ranches.

16 Oct. ~~1965~~ 1975. Drove on S. then similar country to Alderpoint, very small town on Eel River. Called Zenia again & Burgess still absent. Tracking still poor from recent rains so returned to Berkeley. to Berkeley

21 October 1975. Tues. Depart Berkeley 11 a.m. and drove via Madera to Mushroom Mdw., Sierra Nat. Forest. Clear day. To Fresno Co.

22 October 1975. 2/10 strato cumulus to E. + fog below 4000'. Rain, 10? days ago, had hardened dusty roads; some muddy spots. Down to Nutmeg saddle.

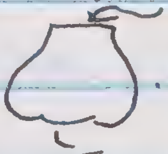
tc 2 Lost Mdw. area good tracking for 2 mi., otherwise spotty at side rd. Few deer

tc 2 tracks. Took Nutmeg Cutoff → Big Creek. 2.1 mi. about level, then 2.2 down to B. Creek road. Spot tracking 5/mi. where not good tracking. Bobcat + fox tracks. Dog tracks on Big Cr. road. Went N. / at Duff Camp, a houndsman w. 5 walker hounds; about 35 yrs., from Fresno. Said mostly after bobcats + gray fox. (Shot, in 10 bobcats for days.) Said fox den nearby. Said a ~~I thought~~ large & small lion in area - big one tracked from E. of Duff Cr. to Cathead Mtn. on Jan. 3 this yr. / (Said track larger than my cast; tracks in snow.) Said usually lions tree quickly - sometimes 10 minutes

c Koford

Journal.

22 October 1975 — Sierra N.F., Fresno Co., Calif.

He knew illegal to pursue lions. Against shooting them as spoiled his sport. Said had heard report of 2 lion cubs near Mammoth Pool this summer. also heard lion treed near Muley Hole last winter. Partner due to join him in a few days. Two of his dogs young; followed my car a mile. | I went to Rancheria Creek road, now (this summer) graded & repaired for at least 2 miles. Lower parts sandy & sand. 3 trailing. (Houndsman said had treed big bear nearly this summer; also many foxes + bobcats.), at 4000' (1.5 mi. up rd.), creek crossing. In mud 5 m. from road, tracks large puma, perhaps 1 week old. Very large: width hind pad min. 60 mm., front pad 70. One hind: 60 p 98 t 95 long. 32 mm. wide at ant. end pad. Pad smooth & curve at sides, not angled.  25. But fore pad angled sides. Photoed tracks. ant. border front to. 35. Area of mixed conifers + streamside oaks, alder, & many brush. (I had found track (smaller) in area earlier this summer & photoed b+w.) | 100 m. to SE, across creek, a game trail into brush & same large tracks in mud. One in wet sand: H. 62 p 85 t 93 l, another F? 68-90-100. In soft mud, front track pad 73, toes splayed to 120; photoed. Cast one in sand, 5 mm impression, in way: 68 p 90 t 100 l. Beyond creek mud harder & more washing | Back to main road & drove N. From Mt. Rest jct., all graveled or old oil. .6 mi., side jeep trail to E. 1.3 mi farther, road TT 14, new & graveled, to R. 1.4 mi. up to end gravel, + .5 more (dirt) to end rd. at 4500'. | Back to main road + to Mt. Rest jct., then to Sample? Saddle 4050' (all gravel or old oil). On 1/2 mi to lower saddle, 3450' ~~4050'~~; which seemed good crossing Rush - Big Creek. Then to Bowen? Mtn. rd (dirt), start 3450'. 1.4? to summit, 4150'. Only spots trackable. Hound tracks, many. Summit to Big Cr. 1.9 mi.; spots tracked. Returned up Nutmeg Saddle road to Markwood camp. Overcast below 4000' all day but cleared about sunset.

a to 2

Photos
gp. w. dent + scale
pair A 66t 88t
F 70p.

8 mud track
62p 110t, 115l

9 gp puma + deer
L 62-97, 95
70-100, 95
R. 73p -96l

K 9 gp. in mud
10 2 in mud + fox
11 forefoot soft mud -
73p 120t

ct | 1/2
I
ft - 1 mi.

Journal

23 October 1975. Thurs. Dinkey Cr. area, Fresno Co., Calif.

Clear, calm, cold morning. Headed for Hatch Lake Rd. Ft. 6000'; 0.0 + T.T.

Passed up side ~~rd~~ log roads to L, L, R, L. + 2.7 mi., Laurel Cr. (6800') Road oiled on gravel,

done this year. + 3.2, jct. to Bear Cr. (L) - much logging traffic from there.

OS, n. tr. Took dirt rd. L. Mod gravel but loose sand sides; RC3. | 1.2 mi. dirt,

w. tr. then log rd. R (dirt; no traffic). Took L (10 S36). | .8 mi. dirt, then jct.

2 2 L branch from mud. R toward Hatch Lake, but rough; took it. | 7400';

ecotone zone. Red fir + some lodgepole. Saw goshawk 7500' flying.

2 mi up, 8200'; clear close view Mt Nelson. Granite, red fir, some

P pine, low manzanita. 2.3 mi up, 8300', parked - hiked up road a

mile to 8800'. No recent sign carnivores or deer. Returned to car

+ main road down. | Back one jct. to log road E; took it to Ruby Cr.

ct 2 crossing, 7250'. | Back to Bear Cr. rd 10S13 - gravel + oil - headed E. on it.

3 mi to highest point, 7200'. Continued on + took R fork .3 mi. to

Brush Cr Mdw. on main rd. - graded + oiled this yr. | Then E. a

few tenths to Patterson Mtn rd. across bridge (.5 mi - shaded) + on

1/2 mile to point; too damp + hard. Area NW slope w. red fir +

c tr 1/2 little undergrowth, poor for wildlife. | Back toward Dinkey Cr.

1 mi before McK grove, spur on downhill side - bladed last

yr. but now graded + lightly oiled (seemed good last yr but

no puma tracks found). | Checked uphill spur 1/2 mi SW. of

ft tr. McK. - also too hard mud. Short spur 1/2 mi. farther - no

1 tracks. | Moved trailer to Summit Camp, where gas bear hunt-

no tracks today. ers camped + 1 bear hanging. Fair no hunters in area now.

24 Oct. 1975. Fri. Frosty + clear. Headed for Sawmill - Black Rock

road. Sandy enough for tracking at sides. Tracked one side + stops

at good spots. Incl. spur 1 mi. on R., better tracking. From start 0.0

road, + 5.3 mi. to Sawmill Flat C/G in red fir zone. + 5.7 mi.

Journal

24 Oct. 1975 Fri. Nr Wishon Res., Sierra N.F., Calif.

to Wishon Res. rd. jct., 6400'. Occas. car on rd - hunters. + 6.9 mi. down to E. Flk. Teakettle Cr., 6300'. Searched for tracks. + 7.3 to Teak. Cr., 6200', where tracks earlier this yr. + 9.3, Ramblers Vista pt., 5500'. + 10 mi to curve where tracks last trip. Search at corners especially. / 5000', mice in deer tracks; several sets. Haas Penstock 4800'. + 11.9 mi down. Then pavement started 12.9 mi, 4500'. Good dust at last. / On down 1.7 mi more to Blackrock Sta. (4000') - graveled out. / Back up road to Wishon area. Took the "sidewalk" to dam, 5 mi at about 6500' - about half too gravelly for tracks. Back to Dinkey Cr. rd. + W. / Tried to find road to Hall Mdw - not found, but went a mile on flat old cutover ground dirt road w small lodgepole p. Road joined graveled & tarred roads to area W. of Hall Mtn. Back to main rd. nr. Haas Mdw. Then on W. to camp. / Saw Oreortyx, 4, about 6 500' on Black Rock rd. One chickaree crossed rd. W. of McK. grove. Disappointed in lack tracks on BR rd.

cars to 15 mi. ; 1 mi.

no tracks

25 Oct. 1975. Sat. Moved trailer to Peres Mdw. area. Clear, calm. Many hunters cars out today. Took road from Nutmeg S. (0.0) (4800') to Rose Crossing. Hard mud but some loose sandy spots or mud spots w. deer & dog footprints. 2.4 mi. to saddle where puma footprints in snow, May '74. 2.9 mi. to Oak Flat jct. 2 more to Dinkey Cr. rd. jct. Found tracks bear in mud at 2 places. Many dog tracks. Then 2.2 mi. down to Rose Crossing, 4250'; sandier road. / Beyond bridge, traced up Patterson Mtn. road. Mud graded since rain, so good tracking spots but much hard clay. Dog tracks, hunters on road. Sandy wash in mine borrow pit - good for tracking. 6.5 mi bridge to Bear Wallow rd. another 1 mi. to top of Patterson Bluffs, where many deer tracks & good view across Kings R. canyon to Delilah & McKenzie R. Checked another spur 1/4 mi. E. Then up P. Mtn. road to first turn, 9 mi. from bridge. No puma sign. Back down. Checked upper 2 mi. of Bear W rd., then too muddy. Back to Rose Cr. & to Nutmeg S. - tracked 1 mi. toward Dinkey on 10 S 24, and

c tr 7 mi

c tr 9 mi
w. 1
c tr. - 2

Journal

25 October 1975. Sat. Nutmeg S., Fresno Co., Calif.

1 mi. to Oak Flat c/g (3 gps. campers). Hunters apparently getting little or 0.

26 Oct. 1975. Sun. Rain at night at Nutmeg Saddle, 4800'. Drove to Foress Mdw. LO jct., parked, & walked 1 mi. up LO road, now muddy & slick. Many deer tracks but no puma sign. / Continued driving down to Haslett Mdw. w. trailer & left it at USFS compound. Rain on & off all day. Returned to Hatch L. road but very muddy. Camped nr. Mountain Rest.

t c-2
w-1

27 Oct. 1975. Mon. Veteran's Day, so USFS men not available. I drove to Clovis, phoned Rick Grippi (student of Dave Chesemore; doing bobcat survey for F&G, Howard Leach office.), & visited him at 4630 E Shields apt. His project has 4 months to completion. F&G wants to radiocollar some cats & now says must do a scent station study. Study area about 48 sq mi., located NE of Auberry in & around Jose Basin. Grippi had talked much w. houndsmen there, & they told of pumas. Main informant was Curtis Cat Hamilton, on Four Bit Ranch (Sec. 24) about 10 mi. from Auberry. Hamilton claimed to have treed 2 diff. pumas this year in the study area. He had shown Grippi copy of maps made by Bill Simpler, formerly of Trimmer, on which a line plotted of lion crossings from E. of Mammoth Pool Res., S. to Big Creek & Beasore Ridge, up to Dinkey Cr. & Nelson Mtn. (Grippi gave me his copy of maps. "Cat" had told him crossings usually within 100 yds. Parts of line followed power line SSE from Sugarloaf Hill. / another local houndsman was Archie Cooper, about halfway betw. 168 jct. & Auberry. Also Alex Reik of Auberry. / Rick seemed conscientious & interested in bobcats but uncertain about what to do in field; also rebellious against DF&G pressures. He offered to show me his area & introduce the houndsmen. He had been out w. Hamilton. Also had list of dates bobcat taken for period several years, often 25/yr. But said never took a lactating ♀. ♂♂ many more than ♀♀ in catch! Grippi had preliminary

Journal

27 Oct. 1975. Mon. Fresno Co., Calif.

report to DFG on bobcat study. / I telephoned M. Garder at Ash Mtn., Sequoia N.P. Then drove there to consult w. him. He thought few pumas in Seq. N.P., few reports. I got copies reports '74 + '75; Phil Schempf got others earlier. Garder said saw tracks, probably of 2, on Colony mill road (11 mi. – about 5800' down to 2000'). Formerly lookout at Milk Ranch reported at times, but newer LO's there made few obs. out of lack interest. Harold Bossy was a seasonal naturalist + had collected ~~[illegible]~~ records back for long time. Main localities of reports were Little Baldy, Ash Mtn. (Hdqtrs.) area, Colony Mill Rd. (nr ~~[illegible]~~ Crystal Cave), + Milk Ranch Mtn. He thought few were in Garfield Grove – Clough's Cave (under 4000') area. / Grizzly in foothills. I drove part way toward Springville & camped.

28 Oct. 1975. Tues. On to Springville, Tulare Co., and searched out Bill Dye, formerly a DFG lion hunter, later a rancher + now wealthy from selling ranch about 3 mi NW of Springville (Rd 320 Av. 176) (Wife Dorothy). He seemed more interested in people adventures than animals now. about 60 yrs. + rugged cowboy build. He was feeding stock when I found him. / Glass Mtn. – Benton Range, 1949, hunted 1 May – 1 July w. Howard Bolton. Got 10 ads. + 5 kits in 6 weeks. Mentioned Dutch Pk. gap area, Truman Mdws. (crossing just before creek at cattle guard – always tracks) Said (Pass S. of Benton H.S. – hunted.) they followed deer up to passes, when migrating, + found lions (lions killed horses, nr. Monty Lane) ~~[illegible]~~ with the deer. (also Conway Grade area mentioned.) Took lions to 10–12 000 ft. / He knew Tant, Bruce. Said Bruce a fine musician, also bar room fighter. Says Tant took kittens but not females, so as to continue supply. / D. thought lions resident in Piute Mtns. – mentioned Sandy Canyon area. / Palomar Mtn. – said they almost wiped out population. Cuyamaca Pk. area – W. mesa was good; see Harry More (sp.?) in Descanso area. Mt. San Jacinto area, Jim Wellman best source. / Locally, Dye said more tracks

Journal

2~~3~~ Oct. 1975.

(25 yrs ago) (Trapped lion (3), bears)
than formerly: specifically suggested Blue Ridge, Kramer Saddle at hd Kramer Cr. (nr. Blue R.), Frozen Grade on road down (W) from Mt Home State Forest, Lloyd Mdws (N. of The Needles) ½ mile below "the knob" on trail down (W. of Forks of Kern). (Like others, when asked for specifics mentions a few small spots!) / Locally, deer much decreased. Puma - occas. one near Springville on Hatchett Pk. to N. (timber on S. side). Dye did not favor more hunting of puma. Had low opinion of most F+G men, or anyone w/o on-the-ground practical knowledge. Now hunts chukars in Benton area. Dye was friendly enough; knew Starker from encounter in Chihuahua. Also knew Matthes, Bill Douglas, others. Said kept no diary & planned no memoirs, but ready to criticize others. Many hunting stories about people - how Bruce & Tant mistreated dogs, etc. He thought little chance of counties for high bounty payment, tho had heard reports of trying to bring in skins from Nevada or Arizona. Evidently an important man in Springville & good contact for future field info. or work. / about 3 hrs. talk w. Dye. Then drove to ~~Porterv~~ USFS R.S. and talked w. Robt. Warner, distr. ranger, here since 1961. Talkative & interested in wildlife, just back from hunting in Utah. He said deer resident in foothills here. At Camp Wishon, 4 bruins killed since 1961. Solo Pk. (conifer stop). - ♂, ♀, 2 juvs. killed 1972. Said had heard puma in Trout Mdws. area, summer. Mineral King area - lion rare but many coyotes. Burn - 1700 A. in Aug. '75 to E of Forks of Kern; thinks will be concentration deer in '76 & many hunters there. Pumas in Tule R. Indian Res., he thought. Said years ago, on Park Ridge just E. of N.P. boundary (Grant Grove area) - tracks. Said saw ♀ w. cubs near Mineral... in January (yr.?). Said had seen wolverine nr. ~~Alpine~~ Alpine mdw., E. of Mt. Home S.F. Related story of seeing golden

Journal

28 Oct. 1975. Springville, Tulare Co., Calif.

eagle take fawn from edge of cliff, glide down, & drop it on rocks as if to kill it. Told of 2 sightings puma near Springville. Mentioned 9 condors seen at once near town this (?) yr., & some landed to NW of town. Warren thought could control lion pop. by special permit for particular area & category, or state hunter. | Very talkative & friendly. Opposed the Golden Trout reserve area proposal as thought poor for goldens. Thought Fish Cr. poor tho F&G thought it ideal, he said. F&G had poisoned Bull Frog & Silver Lakes, perhaps others, in order to restock w. golden (?) trout, R. W. said. | All wildlife reports sent in to Porterville. I went there to N.F. hdqtrs. Gordon Heebner absent but talked w. Bud Brookings, grazing & deer herd asst. B. said about 11 000 cattle grazed on N.F. (more in L. Padres & Modoc), summer, about 3½ mos. Thinks forests overgrazed, tho less in last 10 yrs. than before. I asked him to expedite puma report transmission to SFO offices. Then headed for Berkeley & arrived about 8 p.m. | Now will start to write up an interim report on project for DWL & NAS.

27 October 1975. Peter Stein went to F&G lab in Sacramento, talked w. personnel there, and measured 56 lb. ♂ in cage (drugged w. M-99).

10 Dec. 1975. Letter from Rick Gruppi says 1 puma track on a bobcat scent station in Jose Basin, mid Nov. Co. trapper = Jim Calvin; info same.

CK

Journal (puma)

13 May 1976. Thurs. Berk. to Glenn Co., Calif.

Departed Berkeley 0930 for Mendocino N.F. In Willows, to USFS hdqtrs. John Lorangern away – will be transferred to Sierra N.F. soon. Recent hot weather + still hot. / About 25 mi W. to Elk Creek, then S. a mile + up along mill road, 20N07, start 1000'. Took better road, not Co. 308; newly graded. By 2600' shift from chaparral to conifers, mostly second growth Doug. fir. About 8 mi up to Bauman Ridge road, 20N59, 4100'; and 1.3 more to crest at Pacific Crest road, 4500'. Drove 7 mi S., mostly oiled road, to start Brushy Camp Ridge rd. Logging in progress on upper Corbin Cr. road. Saw 3 deer, 1 Citellus lateralis, S. beecheyi. / Out to W. on BCR road. 3.6 mi. out on gravelly dirt to hairpin turn, where found puma track last summer. 1.5 mi. more to jct. Hayward C. road, 5000'; most traffic on that rd. 7 miles out, end grading – road machine – no grading beyond, but all passable for trucks. Returned back to E. Sugar pine – many cones about 6" long now. No bobcat or coyote sign noted. / On Pac. Crest rd., headed S. 1.4 mi. to start Anderson Ridge rd. Full moon, windy evening. No livestock seen.

0 ♂ C 2

TN: , car / eq. 2

14 May 1976. Friday. Drove slowly out Anderson Ridge rd. Some construction. .5 mi. to flat on ridge, where pipes, machines; 5000'. Then untravelled, ungraded, spots trackable. Big old stumps to 5' diam. No cattle tracks. Heard Oreortyx; saw 1 pair. Saw ♂ deer, 4" antlers in velvet. 8 mi., road start down to N. of ridge. .3 to fork, took R. .6 to fork, took L – 4200'; "middle Anderson Spur" R, 2 mi long. 9 mi out; 3800'; poor track. Back to E. Deer tracks on road; saw 1 deer. / Back to Pac. Crest Ridge, then up 19N21 to top Sheetiron Mtn. Patches snow there, 6500'. Other peaks to S. + N also had snow patches (not St. John). True fir trees mainly, + bare rocky ground. 2 men down USFS bldgs. / Back to road + down to Low Gap. Down Black Diamond rd. to washout, about 2 mi. Road hard, tracking poor. Saw 1 [illegible]. Walked beyond 1/4 mi. to "The Pocket" brand. / Drove on toward Snow Mtn. + road

Photo B+W → Hull mtn.

CK

> 3/94
294

Journal (puma survey)

14 May 1976 NE Lake Co., Calif.

down to Lower Rye Camp. Top 5300'. 3½ mi. to Twin Springs. Tracking spotty - dirt too hard. Mixed conifers. Saw Swainson at 4150'. Black oaks starting into leaf + conifers. (Near Lower Camp, scrub oak still dry & essentially leafless.) at 3700', 5 mi down, oaks, many., ceanoth. brush; occas. dusty spot. Black bear track 3500'. 6 mi down, 3500', Lower Rye camp. Continued to Skeleton Glade trailhead - main road freshly scraped; some good spots. Dog tracks, 2900'. / Returned E up road. / Went S. on [illegible] rd. - 1.6 mi., then jeep trail up in soft black dirt. Trackable spots. / Back to start Corbin Cr. rd. First mile w cobbles, machinery, logs, but deeper dust. 3 mi. to crossing of Corbin Cr., 3500'. Gravelly hard road; no traffic because of washouts. Walked on to Happy Camp Cr. bridge. Creek nearly dry. Coyote tracks. Saw Grosbeaks, W. tanager (1), robins. / Back to car & to P. Crest rd. Camped.

OSA C

cy. tr. - car 5 mi.

15 May 1976. Sat. Windy night, clear. No logging today, so rechecked upper .7 mi. of Corbin Cr. road - dust good but no puma tracks (~~deer~~ deer, coyote; disturbance keeps beasts away?). / Drove N. on Pac. Crest rd. to 20N 43A to W., now oiled. 2 mi. to Jumbo Spr. area, then down to SW between Kneecap R. + Corbin Cr. ~~Apparently for log trucks~~; dirt branches. Continued on for 6 miles, about 4500'. Turned back; apparently to dead end low in canyon. / ~~Bear~~ track at 4700' on oiled road, in dust. / Jumbo-Summit Spr. road dusty, about 1 mile. Hit main road on crest; 20N02, + headed for Kneecap Ridge. Dust; searched junctions, edges. Cattle tracks abundant. To Cold Springs area, then Kneecap Rd. (Bear Wallow [illegible] travel, also dirt). Hard surface dirt, some gravel, spots trackable; needs more use for dust. Last 3 mi., descending, fair. To Low Gap, 4200', where oiled road. / To Bloody Rock rd., dirt + narrow, then gravel., oaks, conifers. Down 1 mile to 2900'. Motorcycles. No puma tracks found; tr. cond. 2-3, better later. River clean + fast. / Drove via Pillsbury Lake to Ukiah & Berkeley.

car-7
foot-1
Tr. eq.
car 8 mi.

Journal
(Puma Survey)

14-15 January 1976. Reno, Nevada

Attended puma workshop attended by fish & game, & F&WL, men from most western states. Included Maurice Hornocker from Idaho, Ray Nelson from Auburn (Calif.), Macgregor & Weaver (& Sitton, Wallen) from F&G (Calif.), Harley Shaw from Ariz., Dick Hall & Dave Ashman from Nevada – about 40 in all. Gave many of these a copy of my tracking method description. Proceedings might be published by W. Assoc. Game & Fish Comm. Some interested in my system. Little hard data available from any source.

Late January 1976. Received F&G report on their "mt. lion study" & attended a meeting w. Hunt, Weaver, ~~[illegible]~~ Macgregor, Mrs Owings, ADL, at office of last. Questioned F&G about report – vague responses. A few days later I wrote a few pages of comments on their report. Also I sent out about 20 copies of my interim report for DOW-NAS, including copies to Hunt, Fullerton, Sherman Chickering, Senator Dunlap. (Visited last at Sacramento & talked w. D. & assistant Harrington.) Dunlap & another senator introduced bill in state legislature for extension of puma moratorium.

April Pacific Grove, Monterey Co.

During Cooper Orn. Soc. meetings, had dinner w. Dr. Ralph Buchsbaum, a Defenders of Wildlife director. Discussed problem of style of final report on puma for DOW. B. lives opposite Hopkins Marine Station. House is a museum, basement the Boxwood Press.

4 May 1976. Left Berkeley 1 p.m. for Kings River study area. Drove via frwy. 5, Los Banos, Fresno, Tranmer. This has been exceptionally dry winter – most snow gone. Cattle on Big Creek road. Grass green but road hard & dry. To my trailer at construction camp; no one else there; no Fish & Game trailer. Not cold.

goes at bottom of p. 289

Journal

8 April 1976. Thurs. To Shandon, S. Luis Obispo Co.

Departed Berkeley 11 a.m. & drove via Hwy. 101 to Paso Robles & to S. McMillan ranch near Shandon. This is a dry year - only 5" at ranch, & wheat only a few inches tall. Much Amsinckia. Quail - several pairs seen; Sam says no nests found, no "cow" calls yet. Cattle fat & frisky tho pasturage short. Sam knows of no condor records for county this year. Discussed lions, grazing on Hunter Liggett M.R., other subjects. Windy & cold.

9 April 1976. Fri. Windy & cold, but clear. With Sam drove to Keck's Corner area. Thousands of acres there now in barley & sugar beets, with sprinklers going. We went to his 480 acres in hills east of Orchard Peak near Devil's Den. Once good quail & chukar hunting, but fire about 1969 removed most of brush. Sam had reestablished much of it by planting seeds, from which it reestablished brush. Sheep range here; his land leased for light sheep grazing. Open grassland w. patches of brush. Nearly no water in parts of White Tent Canyon. Sam says 1800 A. of BLM land around Orchard Peak - good place to reserve. Saw no quail. Much talk. Returned to McM. Ranch. Eve. - heard one "cow" call of Lophortyx.

10 April 1976. Saturday. Suzanne & I drove via Navajo area to Queen Bee Camp, thence on up locked USFS road to west of Pine Mtn. Parked in usual place and hiked N. on rim, looking for puma tracks. Ground hard but small sandy spots and points from earlier shallow mud; tracking condition 3 - the long stretches not trackable. Saw turkey vultures, one Cooper's hawk. Heard only one Oreortyx bugle. Occas. tracks 1 coyote or 1 deer. Rare drops - pings. Only 1 bobcat track. Continued on trail to Nick Ranch trail & out it 1/2 mile to first pine middle crest, where lost

Journal

10 April 1976. Sat. Pine Mtn., San Luis O. Co.

year found puma scratches, but no puma scratches or tracks. Re-
turned to parked car, then 1/2 mile S. → Pine Spring. Found puma tracks
track photo b&w 1-3 — in road, made when mud soft; apparently same ♂ as occasionally
since Nov. 73 & Mar. 74. Took black & white photos w. scale. Return-
ed down to Queen Bee camp. / From rim, snowy tops of Mt. Pinos &
other peaks visible. Clear & calm. Road hard & few ruts — unusually
good for this season. / Returned to Mc M. ranch. Wild flowers few and
small this year because of dryness. / Mom searched 1 hr. for quail
nests on N slope w/o success. A pair of ravens seen several times
over gulch 1/2 mi. E. of Sam's house; 2 old raven nests there, & Sam
c-2 w.4 (+4 est.) — says a new one w. eggs. Also a barn owl in gulch hole as if
nesting. Saw Bluebirds & Tyrannus near houses.

11 April 1976. Sunday. Drove via Navajo summit to Pozo area and
Avenales Ranch. 38 mi. from Sam's to ranch gate. Green grass [illegible]
high but Salinas river mostly dry. / Met Cliff Hudson on road. He said
sighting — that early April, John Arnold saw one puma, possibly 2, on road
near start of Machesna Trail. Not large cats. Also Cliff said saw large
puma track on Machesna trail about 1/2 way up. / Sue & I drove up
road to Pilitas Pasture, where tracks found once. Roads hard & dry. We
walked N. on trail to the rim, ascending thru oak - grassland, then
thick chamise. At lower wire gate, about 3500', no tracks on loose
sandy area. About 1/2 mi. further, a few puma tracks in hard mud in
♂ t.v. — saddle area — measured 70 mm across forefoot pad — same as Pine
Mtn. male cat. No photo. Continued on 1/2 mile on high crest. Two Oreortyx
calls heard. / Walked back to car. / Deer tracks scarce on crest. But
c-2 w-2 (+2 est.) — under oaks in bottom, glimpses of deer — a group of 7 had 4 ♂♂
w. velvet antlers up to 6" long. Cliff reported 2 freshly dead deer,

Journal

11 April 1976. Easter Sunday. Avenales Ranch, S. Luis Obispo Co.

but description did not fit puma kill. But "easy pickin" in the bottom. / Saw no ~~snakes~~ snakes, found no salamanders (some searched under logs). We took road to Navajo sta. – windy there. ~~As~~ Searched spots for puma tracks. Returned down to Salinas R. / Drove to Pozo & on 4 a few miles to John Arnold ranch. John works 4 days/wk. at Fresno. He told of sighting puma on road. Dark color, hair erect, fine condition. After first gone, saw one in canyon, possibly a second one – so may be 2 (2 yearlings?) in area. (Poor tracking now, however) He said tracks small, less than 2" across heelpad. / He also mentioned seeing carcass drag marks leading down to a nearby pond, but did not find cat tracks or carcass. One kill had intact ribs, cleaned of flesh, & backstrap eaten – these features not indicate puma. Head scratched a bit. / We returned to L. McMillan ranch.

12 April 1976. Mon. Clear, warmer. Set traps but no more stephensi & took 1 large Dipodomys (held captive). More talk w. Sam. Went to Cl McMillan Ranch & talked w. him a couple of hours. Then drove via interstate hwy. 5 to Berkeley.

insert → 4 May 1976. See bottom p. 586.

5 May 1976. Clear except for thin high clouds. Prep. to haul trailer to Dinkey Creek area. Heard calls Oreortyx and Lophortyx – also latter at Rutting Cr. bridge, 2481'. Left trailer there & checked road up Big Creek. Cattle & deer tracks. Creek low, clear, running fast. Dirt road & parts ~~trackable~~ trackable – about 5/mile spot checks. / 2.7 mi to Rutting Cutoff. Then harder surface. After Mtn. Home jct, gravel & old sand. / Drove 1.7 mi. up Providence Cr. rd., to where tracks in mud last fall. Spot checked, but no puma sign. Deer, dog, coyote tracks. Many Oreortyx calls. / N. of Prov. Cr. rd–, gravel & hard dirt– gravel rd. up to E. 14 TT, new. To bridge, still gravel & sand. Checked spots. Back

Journal (puma)

5 May 1976. Dinkey Cr. area, Fresno Co. Calif.

to Mt. Rest rd. To Bogaard Saddle, 4050'. also checked saddle 4 mi. to W. & then

toward Burnes Mtn. Dirt rd., but hard, after Rush Cr. branch. / about 200 m.

Track hp47 before summit, puma tracks in road — indistinct, made when softer; several

days old. Hindfoot 47 and 72 toes (good measure). / Oreortyx calls; saw 4

pairs on road, singly, this day. / Back to jct. & took Rush Cr. rd. — mostly

graveled (1/2 mi dirt in places). Creek low, clear. Beyond hard sandy, but

trackable patches, rough. Spot checks. On to Bolfs Flat jct. & Big Cr. rd., got

trailer, & hauled up Fence Meadow rd., now mostly graveled to Sevento Ridge.

Then hard dirt. Dried mud ruts. Poor tracking. Many ~~oo~~ Oreortyx calls & saw

pairs. / Camped at Nutmeg Saddle. Cu — stratus clouds, fine sunshine,

& cold. / Oaeas. cars today — about 5 total. / about ~~10~~ 9 mi. of dirt rd.

tr SCC 4 cqur. w. 5/mi. spot checks = 4 mi. tracked. One old track found. / Walked W. on

Nutmeg C/O — fair sandy surface, some ~~so~~ silt washes — track of adult ♂

and of bear; light poor, to check in morning. / Saw & heard

poor-wills in evening. Camped Nutmeg Saddle.

6 May 1976 Thurs. Overcast. Went W. on Big Creek cutoff rd. Within 1/4 mi.,

tracks Hp55 puma tracks, ad. ♂, Hp 55 Ht 90. Spacing 12"-15"-8"; 27" from LF to LF

tracks. On and off for 1/2 mile, on upslope (?) side road in washed silt. Several

days old. Oreortyx calls frequent. Heard pygmy owl calling. Old bear track.

Coyote tracks. / Slowly to Oak Flat. Puma tracks, appar. same ♂, in

dried mud 1/10 mi beyond where found ~~May~~ Feb. 1974 in snow. Mostly too hard

for tracks, too little ^car traffic. / From Oak FC. jct. toward Ross Cr., just

beyond creek found same tracks again, 4900'. Fp 62 toes 90. Others

Cast in dried mud on a crest. 7 mi. on. Cast one track in plaster. Spacing 10"-14".

ant. edge pad of forefoot 40 mm wide; wide lateral wings pad ; same

as in mud of Poisoit. Cracks last fall, I think. / On down to Ross Crossing

bridge. Too hard for tracking. Creek fast & high but clear. Saw no

Journal

6 May 1976 Dinkey Creek, Fresno Co.

people or traffic. Tried Deer Creek sideroad, .2 mi. on. — also too hard. Returned to Nutmeg Saddle. Coyote & bobcat tracks in mud ~~[illegible]~~ & at Rose Cr. Some deer tracks too, both places. / Mod. rain started. I hauled trailer north, barely making it on slick mud, to Dinkey Cr. rd. Then to Pollard Flat campsite, where F & G trailer (but no men). Robins there, Oporornis? calling, large puffballs in meadow. Rain continued for an hour. Cleared partly after dark. Found no ~~[illegible]~~ tree squirrels around camp area.

Tracks — end of Hwy 55. Tr. equiv. — 3 mi.

7 May 1976. Fri. Calm, 1/10 cumulus, frosty. Before sunrise, walked & listened for Tamiasciurus in Pollard Flat area; none in 20 min. / Departed by car to E. No FS people at Dinkey Cr. station yet. Out toward Weshon. Checked turnouts, start sideroads, for tracks. Snow in spots, especially N. side Patterson Mtn. Logging in progress SW of Brush Mdw. Checked spur to S just E of House Mdw; fresh snow on old. Coyote tracks. Saw 1 Tamiasciurus on granite boulder next to Abies, 7000'; 90+% Abies here. Competition w. S. beecheyi in spots? Chinquapin brush near. / Saw 1 Eutamias, 1 ~~[illegible]~~ C. lateralis, above 6000' today. / Took Black Rock rd. Checked start of spurs to E, first for 1 mi. Snow patches. Main road dirt & fine gravel — outer edge often loose & trackable. Spot checked on down road. Saw 2 deer at 6600 ft. No puma tracks — checked corners, turnouts, creek crossings (Teakettle). Perhaps rain yesterday obscured old tracks. / At 6100', mostly brush, boulders, dead snag conifers. Lowest turnout where tracks last year at 5500'. Track conditions fair only. Haas Penstock at 5100'. Pavement start at rd to Haas Powerhouse. Spot tracked about 12 mi on main road, + 2 mi sideroads. Heading toward Balch C., road but S. shoulder ~~often~~ trackable. Burnt fields of unknown content on N. side of Rodgers Ridge. / Cattle near Black Rock sta. / Walked main road NW of ~~Balch~~ Balch Camp, where hill May 74 — no people, dogs, a sign. / On to Big Creek road, up it toward Old Bretz Mill — above bridge, 3.6 mi. graded, then fresh logged & dozed area, then narrow dirt about 5 mi + 2 mi. To

Tracked ST 5/mi 12 m, all-car = 8 mi equiv.

Journal

7 May 1976. Dinkey Creek, Fresno Co.

Dinkey Rd., west of Swanson Meadow. Upper part good for summer tracking. Back to Pollard Flat for night. Ro F & Gowen-shane. Jose Basin & TO Berkeley, G.I.T.

8 May 1976. warmer, clear sky, calm; predicted to 90° in Fresno. Shaver Lake down about 50'. Musick Mtn. LO road closed, so went about 1½ mi. on & took unmarked road west toward Stevenson Cr. area. Saw Sciurus on road. about ½ mi. to guard sta., graveled, then gate (open) & dirt road along steep sidehill, about 5900' elev. Oaks, Pseudotsuga, alders, mixed conifers, narrow dirt road. 2 mi. out, passed W. Portal. Mt. Quail. Mixed conifers, mostly P. ponderosa. Sciurus. 3.2 mi. out, wooden water tank. Spotty tracking. Road turned S. across fairly graveled. 4.7 ~~mi., campground, SM flat creek. 5.1 mi; jct. to ... Shaver L.~~ Dogwood in flower. 4.5 mi, power house #2 road. Mixed conifers, mostly ponderosa p., flatter. 4600'. "Dawn" & meadow. 4.8 mi., fork E. to Shaver L. (4 mi). Up it on hard dirt road 1 mi., 4800'. In washed sand at roadside, puma track — crude — H p width 52, F p 62, F t 85. 1¼ mi. w. of Musick Mtn. Manzanita & Ceanothus brush, spaced pines. Continued E. to 3.3 mi, jct. to Musick Mtn. Spots trackable, sandy. 5200'. / Turned back. Good route for track search when dust better. Back to C.O. Jose B. road; 30' pines, hard sandy dirt road. From jct., +1.6 mi., ~~4400'~~; saw some of Rick Grigg's plots for habitat tracking. Digger p., black oaks starting into leaf. +2.6 mi, Stevenson Cr., campground, 4300'. + 4.7 mi; crossed under power line; sandy at sides, coyote tracks, 4100'. Chaparral w. digger p. 8.7 mi., Jose Basin creek, bridge, 3150'. Rough Mill rd. open 6 mi (to 65 E?). Oaks, digger pines, open grassland, brush on hills, ranches. 950? I drove around toward Auberry. Rd. S. to Pine Ridge, Alder Springs (dusty ground); first perhaps near power line. | From jct., 3.6 mi. to Cote Hamilton road (lic. 41305, also Walker & Ellis). ~~Also~~ Poor tracking beyond (S of) Stevenson Cr. But about 10 mi. good tracking road in all, 5 mi spotty tr. + 3 mi. sort. / Continued on via Friant & Madera to Berkeley.

Track on b&w photo

flat

a tr. ... 6 mi

Journal (puma)

18 May 1976. wed.   Berkeley to Shandon, San Luis Obispo Co.

Departed 1 pm. & drove via hwy. 5 to Cholame and Elen McMillan Ranch. Discussed pumas, condors, w. Elen. Very dry year, few flowers, grain stands short & some probably not worth harvesting. Overnight to Ian McMillan Ranch.

To Big Pine Mtn, Santa B. Co.

19 May 1976. Thurs. Clear, cool. Telephoned Randy Long, USFS, & arranged for road use to Big Pine Mtn. Conferred w. Ian. Picked up Eben about 10 a.m. & we drove south thru Carrizo Plain. / Many huge grain fields now, especially in north, & much additional ploughed ground. Eb said only a few, perhaps 5, sandhill cranes seen near Soda Lake last winter; Bob — , of nearby ranch, said insufficient water for them; also, that cranes usually came about October 12. We saw about 10 burrowing owls on separate mounds (old, of D. ingens) over several miles of road, from Washburn Ranch rd. north to high tension electric line. Eb considered these unusual. We saw no jackrabbits, several ravens, one golden eagle, several red-tailed hawks. Little wildlife seen. One flock of about 2000 sheep near Soda Lake. / On to Santa Barbara Canyon & up it. Several trucks of hikers (or horsemen) at locked gate. Then dirt road about 4 mi. to upper locked gate, 5100', & .7 mi. more to crest of road at SB potrero fork. I saw bobcat tracks on road; few deer tracks. / Fair dirt on part road s. to willow gate (1 mi.). Then harder dirt with patches good — tracks coyote, deer (few), 2 bears on strip to Chokecherry Sp., 4.3 mi. Then on thru live oaks to Madulce saddle, 2.2 mi. on. Parked, & hiked out ridge trail toward Madulce Pk. 10 a.m. Good trail thru brush, then conifers. Rare deer tracks. But found about 10 deep scratch marks, evidently made by coyote (?) or small carnivore, digging down about 3" w. 2 paws, in chaparral or conifer area in trail. Feet too small for puma. Sometimes one foot scratch ahead of other. About 1' long, 6" wide, parallel grooves. Photod one. Out about 1½ mi., beyond fork down to N. Saw 2 golden eagles perched on limb of pine.

Margin notes:
1 mi - 4 mi
: equiv. 2 mi.
4 1
2
c .1
b+w
1 shot w. scale

Journal (puma)

19 May 1975. Big Pine Mtn., Santa Barbara Co.

ft. tr. 1½ (+ return) Eb saw a hermit warbler, considered unusual, & Townsend warblers. ~~Scatty~~ Fairly good ~~trailing~~ tracking [illegible] & should be good for puma scratches, but no sign. Back to road & drove on 1.2 mi.± to Alamar Saddle ±6000'. Had to move many boulders to get through; apparently first car this year. Tracks many hikers at saddle, to & from Higuera Canyon. Tracks horse, donkey, dog. / Drove on about 1 mile toward Big Pine Mtn. three large conifers before large boulder stopped us. Parked & hiked on to summit, about 2 mi or +. Eb called a pygmy owl which we saw several times & which called long after we left. We flushed a band-tailed pigeon from nest on limb of conifer, 15' up, & stretch 10' from trunk, & saw other pigeons. Tracks bear, one very large, one smaller, & of 1 or 2 hikers. We searched for tracks near road, then returned to car & camped. Clear, cool. Fog to W. & some clouds overhead, but cleared in evening.

20 May 1975, Friday. We again hiked road to summit, then out to W. Big Pine LO site. Saw deer tracks ~~& coy~~, one coyote sign, but 2 bears' tracks prominent. Watched for condors about 8 - 10 a.m. (Dayl. Sav. time), including areas over & beyond Bluff Camp. Saw no condors, eagles, redtails. But 1
tr. W. - 3 (+rt.) sharpshin hawk, 1 Cooper's hawk. Also walked ½ mile W. on trail, to saddle in chaparral. Saw & heard Oreortyx; calls frequent during day.
c-eq. 2 No puma sign. Violet-green swallows & white-throated swifts about cliff tops. Black-chinned sparrows in brush. Western tanagers. Other birds, but no ravens or Cathartes seen. ~~To~~ Walked to ridge top several points; soft soil, bear tracks. Returned to parked truck. Met 4 hikers on their way. / In dried mud of road puddle, dog tracks but
tr. ? one judged puma, 82 mm across toes. / Drove back W. on road. Beyond Chokecherry Saddle, about 1 mi. before Willow gate, 5500', found fresh tracks of large and small puma, judged ♀ with cub, in

Journal (puma)

20 May 1976 — Big Pine Mtn., Santa Barbara Co.

chaparral zone where also some tracks deer, bobcat. Atop our tire tracks of yesterday. Measured many tracks & took b + w photos of some to show pad patterns. ~~Big fm~~ Tracks for about 300m, coming down bank, along road, then down. Most of large tracks loose & indistinct, as if cat running, but small tracks clear. Big track: Hp 50, toes 94 wide, Fp 54 wide. Middle lobe narrow & short, lateral recesses angular. Small track: posterior corners angular; Hp ~~42~~ 44, toes 67 (some to only 42 mm pad, 65 toes); Fp 47 – ~~toe~~ toe 68. Judged large ♀, large cub. No more tracks to Santa Barbara Cny. road. Drove down it. Old cliff swallow mud nests W. of Reyes houses seemed unused, some broken. On lower flat, some yucca in bloom, ~~many~~ occasional antelope ground squirrel (also some on Carrizo Plains). Leaving N. thru Carrizo Plains, saw ~~no~~ turkey vultures, few ravens. Two gopher snakes seen on road. / To Ebon McMillan home, more talk; back to Ian McMillan Ranch in evening. Many small cottontail rabbits out now.

10+ w
5±

Tracks
Hp ~~45~~ 50
Fp ~~44~~ 44

22 May 1976. Saturday. — Nr. Shandon, S. L. Obispo Co.

Clear, calm. Conferred w. Ian McMillan. Looked over his 1963 condor notes. Discussed 1080 & kit fox problems. Ebon recently at Camp Roberts where ground squirrels abundant but regulations prevent use of usual poisons. Ian said burrowing owls have persisted near Soda Lake though rare now, elsewhere in area.

23 May 1976. Sunday. Talked w. Ian. He said quail nesting poor; only 2 nests found, one already failed. No chicks seen. Very dry year. / Drove to Ebon McMillan's ranch. Met Pat Brown (bat echolocation development) and husband (herpetologist) from UCLA. Drove then toward Lost Hills to Blackwell's Corner, near S. on 33. Small orchard trees & planted crops in sections. Saw several antelope ground squirrels on flat uncultivated areas. Continued on to Maricopa, thence east. Trees at west of mts. to S. checked for condors though air hazy. Much cultivation of

c Kofford

Journal

23 May 1976   S. Kern Co.,   Calif.

lower flat ground - cotton, sugar beets. On to highway 5, thence S. to Grapevine store & gas station, & took paved road east 6 miles along foothills ~~to~~ about 7 mi. to Edmonton pump station, for water of Calif. aqueduct. Good view point for observing Pastoria canyon & Grapevine Ck. area for condors. About 500 cattle on adjacent lower ground of Tejon Ranch. Much of flat near main highway now cultivated, but foothills dry grass rangeland to Bear Mtn. and to N. Saw no condors nor turkey vultures. / Thence to Frazier Pk. & up road to Frazier Mtn L.O. First 3 mi. paved but rough. Then dirt w. old coarse rocks, and loose dirt last few miles. LO at 8013 ft., now in use. Spot checked for tracks - surfaces fair but traffic; saw 4± cars along road, found ammo. cases, heard shots. Heard Oreortyx at intervals and at summit. A road out W. Frazier ridge; another to E. from L.O. I took latter. Through old yellow pines, Artemisia tridentata mostly. Dry ridge, wide spaced pines. Followed road to dead end, 7400', overlooking Castac Lake area. (1/2 mile Arrastra jeep trail branch pointing out; 20W05). Cond tracks, usually at least 1 set; saw deer tracks. Saw no bobcat or puma tracks, but

tr. 4'. 5 mi car — some car & cycle traffic today. Good in summer on days when no traffic, weekdays.

24 May 1976. Mon. Wind all night on ridge. Sunrise about 0530. 7a.m.

tr. 2 — started back road to spot tracks. Found fresh coyote tracks, no puma. Descended to Chuchupate R. S. Talked w. Randall Long, resource forester, & re-met Dave Hammond, the new D. Ranger here, & Joe Stettler (formerly at Pozo). R. Long said had seen cat, apparently small puma, near summit of Quatal Cny. road twice. He thought area N. of Ballinger Cny. had had especially lot of deer & coyote tracks. One puma report from Tecuya Mtn. area. Talked about condors. Encouraged him to get more info on puma tracks. / Departed via Quail Lake road to Lake Hughes, Palmdale, & to Pearblossom area. There talked w. Rick Madallena of USFS (formerly Humboldt State)

Journal

24 May 1976 — To Angeles Nat. Forest, Calif.

about pumas in Valyermo district. One second hand report from Juniper Hills last year. He suggested Pinyon Ridge & boundary near Table Mtn. for tracking. I encouraged reporting of tracks. / Then drove SE on Big Pines rd., paved, to Big Pines and Wrightwood; about 6000'. Mostly yellow pine, with broadleaves in canyons, ceanothus and other brush under pine. Steep ~~slopes~~ slopes and many canyons. Took Lone Pine road to SE; thru canyon w. ~~all~~ brush on both sides, including yucca. S. on Cajon Cny. road and ~~took~~ w. fork to Lytle Cr. area & ranger station. Resources man gone, but talked with Don Adams, (FCO ?). He said one report puma from near San Sevaine lookout last year (or 2 ?). But no other reports; he spent much time on the forest roads, he said. Smoggy today; visibility of mountains poor, even close. Drove SW. to Beaumont area. / Phoned Don Hunsaker in San Diego.

25 May 1976. Departed & drove to Banning, thence S. toward Idyllwild. Road ascended thru steep brushy hills w. granite boulders. On top, thick brush, large live & black oaks; some grassland cattle ranches. ~~Dust~~ Sandy soil, dust conditions good. Road to Black Mtn. appeared good for tracking. Brush larger & thick, more than most regions to north. Chamise, ceanothus. On Vista Grande, pines, to 70'. Large burned area – 2 yrs. old? Heard Mountain quail calls. Coyote tracks on edges & turnouts. More pines in shady canyons, also fir & incense cedar. / At Idyllwild, talked w. Jerry Henderson at State Plan headquarters. He friendly, knew of reports, but had seen no sign. Many people here in summer; booked thru June for campsites. I reviewed track ID, asked for more reports. Van Cleve, who earlier sent reports, now at Cowell Redwoods park. / To USFS ranger station. Talked w. B.K. Johnson, resource officer. Little interested. He said much uninhabited zone on SE side of San Jacintos. Secretary said lookout ♀ at Red Mtn. reported tracks & scat on road last October; same

Journal (puma)

25 May 1976. San Jacinto Mtns, Riverside Co.

lookout there this year; road may be good for tracking. Also Rouse Ridge + Bautista canyon roads might be good tracking. To home of F+G man Bonnie Blong, but not there, left note. On Stacy Dr., going uphill from Smith Circle. Pleasant area but getting crowded. / Descended to S. down Garner Valley, wide grassland, pine patches, with brush + rock hills surrounding. Drove sideroad past Morris Ranch, in chaparral canyon. / Then on to Anza, S. to Lake Henshaw. Talked w. 2 USFS guards at Oak Grove campground. They thought puma rare, tho one each said had seen one once, on roads. They did not know of puma report form. / Drove to Palomar Mtn, up thru thick live oaks, then conifers (Pseudotsuga first), then mostly conifers. No man at P. state park. Talked w. Dave Dodds at USFS station; here a year, said saw small one to E. of observatory. Said could go to High Pt. lookout thru observatory area (get permission first) (Mgr. Kosintis (sp?)), or from Sunset Summit on E. side. Said ♀ at Anthenis store said a puma ranged ridge there + to E. (E grade road dumps) and had taken a dog, harried other dogs. / I visited observatory; Cal. Tech. runs; 3 sections land, perhaps good for tracking or info. Observatory + area to E. brush mostly, w. rock outcrops. Hi Pt. had been recommended by Bill Harvey of Cleveland N.F. / Descended via E grade rd. to Lake Henshaw, 14 mi., smoothly paved + little traffic. Thence to Santa Isabel, Julian (apple country; veget. looked like northern Calif. near Shasta), then thru Cuyamaca St. Park on smooth paved road w. moderate traffic. Few parking spots. Well vegetated w. trees, broadleaves mostly, near roads but peaks in thick brush w. light sandstone boulders. $4/site to camps. Cars not allowed off paved roads. Probably best to track in off season, October or Nov. Continued on to Descanso where cattle in grassland flats, hills thick brush w. boulders. Thousands of sq mi of brush + boulders in S.D. Co. On Palomar Mtn. I saw deer tracks & USFS man thought moderate deer + fawns. But

Journal (puma)

25 May 1976. SE San Diego Co, Calif.

at San Jacinto, park people thought few deer, especially in higher parts, and many ground squirrels. During day I saw several S. squirrels in oak zones. Heard Orentyx in hills near Descanso.

26 May 1976. Went to SD State Univ. in San Diego and met w. Dr. Don Hunsaker, who had been gathering reports on pumas since 1973. He gave me maps showing general locations. In 1973, tracks or good verbal records of 13 mature cats, + cubs: 2 + 2 + 2, + 1 young, from about 10 localities, + estimated 40 residents in county. In 1974, about 8 from about 8 areas, + 3 young or cubs. Estimate 30-35 residents. 1975, estimated 25-30 resident, about 9 localities, + 2 + 2 + 1 young. 1976, estimated 15-20 mature, 7 localities, no young reported yet. Don had some (or 2) students who searched for tracks. He recommended some specific roads where tracks had been found. I marked these on Cleveland N.F. maps. Students + Don had even checked Cuyamaca S.P. when snow on ground. He had one man who was to make county survey, but recently had heart attack. Don had tried various commercial scents for puma with no results. He has small ranch in Colombia near La Macarena, where son lives, + hopes to increase or introduce monkeys for study.

27 May 1976. Departed San Diego, morning fog overcast. Out above fog near Alpine. To USFS-R. Sta. at Descanso, too early. Then drove E. to Pine Valley road and north on it, dirt after creek crossing, but too hard for good tracking. (Don had said Sue Wallen once found puma tracks made in daytime, nr. Tragedy Spr. area. Then to headquarters of Cuyamaca S.P. George Cole (correspondence) gone, + super. (Bill Robinson) ranger absent. Talked w. L.A. Dietz. He said report tracks, adult + 2 cubs along Azalea trail about a year ago; reported by a retired Navy man named Ford, park volunteer. Dave Burns? usual pep talk. Then walked trail toward Dyar Spring to E. Many coyote + raccoon tracks, some bobcat (pad 30, toes 44 wide). Some good tracking conditions, but about 4500' there green wide meadow. Granite Springs farther up in same

Journal (puma)

27 May 1976 — Cuyamaca S.P., S. San Diego Co., Calif.

walked tr. - 2 mi. — direction. Large black & live oaks, + chaparral. many deer tracks. Heard Oreortyx calls. / Then north to .6 mi. beyond Paso Picacho campground & parked. Walked west through grassland & oaks to Azalea Glen trail. Up it, mainly thru small incense cedars, to Azalea Spring at top, where trail hit a broad hard dirt horse trail. Few deer tracks. Cedars, alder trees. Walked SE on that trail. About 1/4 mile on, hit tracks of puma, small, probably < 1 day old. Definition poor on ground hard & cat moving quickly;

1 b&w — blurred between toes & heelpad. Photoed one. Width of heelpad 41-43 mm., lengths 75-81, toes on one 68 mm across. Very small for adult lone cat (one of cubs seen last year?). Measured width about 10 pads. Lateral sides of pad nearly

tracks Hp 40 — straight, & lobes about same length: 19 mm ← rt. Film of dust only, hard to see tracks & photo. Tracks continued to paved narrow road (to lookout) and across it to SW. Followed 200 yds, then harder, rockier. I turned back. Better tracking later in season

w - 3 — when more dust. / I returned to Azalea Spr. & down trail to Picacho, but dust poor. Steller jays, Acorn w., 1 Eutamias seen, several bandtailed pigeons perched in conifers. Heavy rainfall was expected 29-31 May. / I drove north to Julian, then on & took 78 to W. Took road N. to Sutherland Res. dam, partly dirt, then rough road west to better dirt road (to Mesa Grande), then on w. fork to Black Mtn. c/g. Canyon c/g. about 50 people there. I took rough dirt road w. toward B. Mtn. Lookout road & went about 4 mi; coyote tracks, but deer tr. rare. Road improved & hit main dirt road to Black Mtn. L.O., dirt but hard. I went up a mile to saddle at 2000' in chamise chaparral. Road recommended by Wm. Haney, USFS. Yucca & chamise in bloom.

TN. - (spot) = car. - again, 3 mi. — 28 May 1976. Black Mtn., San Diego Co. Heavy drizzly fog, slowly lifting. I drove up road to lookout, starting 2800'. Hard dirt road but 10% trackable. Oreortyx tracks; rare deer tracks. 2 mi. up, 3200; spring & tank. 3500', small flat at saddle &

tracked w. - 3½ w. - 1 — turn. 3.4 mi., 3900', locked gate. area of small planted pines; manzanita & chamise shrubs. About ½ mi. walk to lookout, 4050 ft. Bobcat & deer tracks. Could not raise L.O., so left a note. Too foggy for observation of terrain. Walked back

Journal (puma)

28 May 1976. Fri. NW San Diego Co.

to sea. Drove down, spot checking. ~~5.4~~ 5.3 mi to road jct. (from E) at 1700; then harder ground, dirt road. 1.1 mi. to gate at 1200; another .4 mi. at main dirt road in canyon (gate ▷ of pipe, 1.6 mi. N. of Isabel creek crossing. apparently a hang-glider area). Then 6 mi. to Ramona (on 7th st; heads N). / Drove then to Escondido, Oceanside. Stayed foggy; visib. about 1/2 mi. Lower part of Camp Pendleton mostly grassland. Much recreational traffic today, weekend. Drove N. on interstate 5; traffic slowed to about 20 mph near Los Angeles. Continued N. to Castaic & took 126 to west through Fillmore, Ojai. Then N. through Wheeler Gorge. Many weekend campers seen. Much steep brushy country, ~~so~~ perhaps good for pumas. Side roads still hard dirt, should check when dusty. Continued on past Ozena to Cuyama Valley, then N. past Soda Lake. In 20 mi., saw about 50 jack rabbits in dark. Continued via hwy. 58 to San Miller road. TO Berkeley

29 May 1976. Discussed living, condos, bit files, 1080, & other problems with Sam. Returned to Berkeley via interstate hwy 5. Saw no eagles en route. On whole trip, Cathartes scarce, though often saw 1 or 2 in San Diego Co.

2 June 1976. Departed Berkeley 11 a.m. & drove via hwy. 5 and Los Banos to Shaver Lake area, Sierra N.F. Lake drawn down far, 20'? below full. Trailer at Eclat? flat. Then talked w. Dave van Brocart?, USFS, who had been in Crown Valley area most of last summer but had seen no cougar sign. However, he said had seen tracks in May on SW side of Rodgers Ridge (Smith saw too), and along Bald Camp - Sealer road. He had worked much in John Muir Wilderness area, including Red Mtn area. / Ron Bertram of F&G said he had made cast of large puma track on small creek on Nutmeg Cutoff road, 19 May 1976. Front pad 68-69 mm, so probably big ♂? He also said that Rempel & Siteart saw adult at

C Koford 3 #04

Journal

2 June 1976. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

Bear Valley area of Rodgers Ridge in December 1975, + that they all saw its tracks later descending trail to Kings River. / At Pollard, about 6 000', heard Oreortyx calls. Vegetation bright green now.

3 June 1976. Clear, calm, cold. With Sue K., drove toward Wishon Res. Several new side logging roads. Picked up dead Tamias speciosus on road near work camps. (♀ 315± -132- 51- 29, lact.) (6200') Took Sawmill Flat road - too much gravel for tracking. Down then to Wishon "sidewalk" road. Sue walked this to reservoir, 5.3 mi, while I tracked spots down to penstocks near Black Rock, down to 3 200'. Dust excellent at sides road & only 1 car passed in about 3 hrs. Found no puma signs on road. / Back up to Wishon Dam. Sue had seen no probable tracks puma; about 1/3 of her route too gravelly for tracks. / Went to Sugar Pine hill area. Road now continues toward Smith Mdw., beyond gravel, walked it for a mile among conifers, no puma signs! Then took jeep road 10M uphill from near Rancheria Cr., toward Scalie Mdw. Good dust. Drove a mile, then walked about 2 to crest - no puma signs. / Met Don Neil, USFS; he said had seen puma tracks at Nutmeg Saddle and Lost Meadow (last summer). / Walked up Rancheria trail toward Statum Cr.

4 June 1976. To Dinkey Cr. FS station. Van Buskirk said he had seen puma track near Hell-for-Sure Lake in summer '74, + another man reported tracks on ridge S. of Dale Lake, both in Red Mtn. basin area. Met Gary Lembcke, who showed me where puma ate several 10 p.m. night of 2 June. It was sitting at mouth of den, on bank 10' from S. side road, .3 mi. E. of Ballinta Summit. Cause chiefly main

tr.
walk - 3
c. q. 3

+

w. 1
walk 2

Bobcat t
f. pad = 32 wide.

Kill

4 June – *Tamiasciurus* [illegible]. [illegible] + [illegible].
6400' – 1/2 mile W. of Bald Mtn. S. Lact. [illegible];
8 [illegible] [illegible]. No embr. – [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] –
imperf. vulva. 335± [illegible] – 105 – 54 – 28.

Journal

4 June 1976. Friday. Dinkey Cr. area, Sierra N.F.

[illegible] by then a possibly road kill. We saw drag marks to N. of the road (9 yds wide, smooth blacktop), to edge, + starting on S. side where cat seen. [illegible] with Tharon, + found kill gone. Then drag marks upslope to S. I found remains 100 yds. from road, in 6-8' clearing among small (30') firs, 15' from small stream. Not covered.

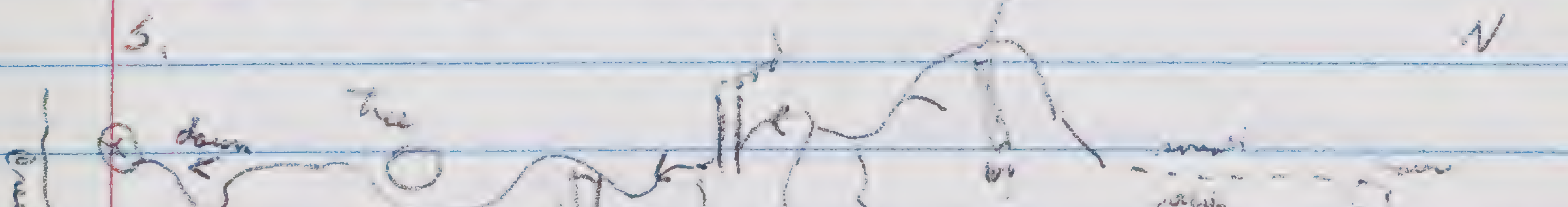
Photos b+w 4x5 — Photoed. The drag trail about 2' wide at spots, only grooves of legs at others. Wound around bushes + under logs + lower fir trees, not direct line. Found small black dropping, 4" wide pile, in drag marks. But also coyote tracks. Cat tracks seen at drag line but some

tracks — better ones 8-10' to side. Hind paw 47 mm wide, forefoot about 55 pad.

Photos b+w — Toes about 75 across. Pad 46, toes 74 on one. Photoed w. scale. Toes pointed + pad measuring [illegible]. Carcass - well cleaned, no

kill remains — skin except torso, one ear. Head gone. Rib cage intact but ventral section most also missing, roughly broken. Backbone not broken but gnawing ground on neck. Lu said a doe. Gave remains to Ron Bertram, F&G. To north of road, winding drag marks to [illegible] 75 m. from road, where scuffle marks, then [illegible] deer hair 5 m. on. No blood. Coyote hair in drag marks. I

Photos b+w — photoed drag marks. Van B. + [illegible] showed good [illegible] – have had [illegible] wildlife [illegible].



In p.m., to Bear Creek area. Road up, 10566, [illegible]. Bot

ct-1 — 10536 to north [illegible]. Traveled road (car, 5 mi [illegible]) 2½ mi. Then

Journal

4 June 1976 — Dinkey Cr. area, Fresno Co.

up dirt jeep road toward Hatch Lake. Drove 1 mile, fair dust, to 7700' and parked in Abies woods, big old trees. Then hiked up road to highest point, 9200'. Occasional coyote or deer tracks, but [illegible] [illegible] habitat. Good dust. Road descended to N-west down 1/4 mi. only. Spots snow on ground. Apparently fair amt. use of road by 4 w.d. vehicles. Walked back to car. Drove to Bear Creek crossing: ~~[illegible]~~ Low + clear water; many human tracks by stream. Bald, Polled.

tr foot 4 mi

5 June 1976. Clear, cold. Saturday. Drove to Shaver Lake, [illegible] Bretz Mill route, now largely graveled. Then north to road to Musick Mtn. LO, dirt road, 3 mi. (In 1973, found puma track W. of LO). Saw talked w. ♀ LO, Marie Fardy (sp.?), here 14 summers. She said she had seen large puma this year (May ?) to E of LO in rocks on ridge in evening. Said saw now [illegible]; we found tracks large bear 100 m W. of LO. Bobcat tracks too. / Drove back to Dawn jct, then [illegible] Dawn road to [illegible] W. [illegible]. Dog tracks. [illegible] walked [illegible] 1 1/2 mi. Traveled to Big Cr. rd jct, (3.1 [illegible] [illegible]) (about 4500') many cattle there + at Dawn. Then drove NE toward Camp [illegible], spot tracking, 5/mi, on steep slopes w. streams in wooded valleys. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ... at guard station. / Returned to Pollard Flat. In evening, I saw one Tamiasciurus chasing another under Abies; I set traps. [caught ♂, ♀ next eve.]

e tr 1, e tr 3, + 1

6 June 1976. Sunday. Repeated search of trail area near Bald Mtn. summit; no more puma sign. Took Dinkey Dome rdg to S., 3 mi., good tracking, to 10 369, now paved. Still good dust on Lost Creek section. Spotty tracking then, sandy ground, to Dinkey saddle. Tracks dogs, coyotes, deer. / Took Cole Flat rd., partly dust, coyote + dirt trailer [illegible]. Cole Flat jct., to Dinkey Rd, 2 mi. of spot tracking (5/mi). Hard dirt mostly. / Then down to Ross Crossing, hard dirt; spot 5/mi. About 10 people there, fishermen. / Drove then toward Patterson Ridge (tracking,

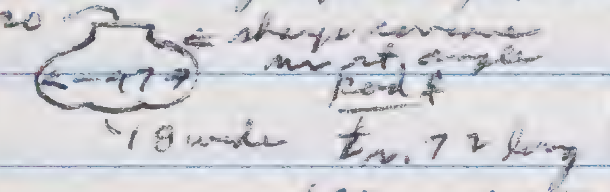
e tr 2, e tr 1, e tr 1, + 1, e tr 1

Journal (puma)

6 June 1976 — Dinkey Cr. area, Fresno Co.

cfp 2 — Bear), Bear Wallow Cr. (1/4 mile down BW rd.), to top of bluffs near Indian Rock. 1/4 mile [illegible] in S. 36 had puma tracks; also fresh tracks going down main road heading N.W. 6000'. Tracks from main road up side road to top of bluff, then W. on crest. Fresh tracks ♀ & sized puma; a few larger tracks of big adult ♂. Dust from film to 5 mm., poor for casts & photos. Small: Hp 48 t 73, toes pointed, T2 adv. 25%. Big: Hp 52, Fp 67, T2 1/4 adv. also.

tracks ♀ ♂ 2 photos b+w



1 b+w rad. heel in road

At small: Hp 47, Fp 52, in photo (pine needle crosses), & weaker pad big ♂ (Hp 57) behind, lat. angle corner — straight sides

One thin dust: Hp 43 t 66. Some Hp 45, 44. — concave, angle; 14 16 14

Another: pad 50, L 78 — arge; 18 18 16

Pad 55: straight, round; 16 17 17; 0 18 36 | Hp 48, L 77.

F? Pad 55, t 71, L 85 — rounded; 1 18 38

Thin dust, Hp 42, t 67. Small.

small one: Hp 46, Fp 55, t 80 — straight, angle; 18 37

cfh — Hp 46, t 71. / puma, Few whole single tracks; difficult to separate fore & hind, left & right. / Drove on to hairpin turn at Rancheria Ridge, N sec. 25, & found tracks large puma in sand; apparently same as in sec. 36. Tracks registered well. Cattle in area including small calf w. dried umbilical cord. 6300'. Hp 55; toe 2 adv. 1/4;

2 b+w w. data

w.1 — conc, conc, round. Pace 19". / Accompanies 2 F & 6 reports from this area in 1973 1975 (via Bertram). / Continued up road, not finding, good dust at sides & many cattle tracks. Many

Journal (puma)

6 June 1976. Patterson Mtn., Fresno Co.

c tr 2 coyote tracks. Spot dr. 10 mi. for 2 mi., before cattle crowd at 0800. Then puma trailing the spots good near Rose Meadow (bright green, cattle) + elsewhere. Crowd to lower main

c tr 2 Dinkey-Wishon road 6 mi. / Returned to Pollard Flat.

7 June 1976. High clouds, dissipating soon. Calm. No catch in squirrel trap. Returned to Berkeley.

16 June 1976. Wed. Departed 10 a.m. Drove northward to Ukiah. Failed to find Jeff Brent, animal control man. Drove on to Covelo. Don Ross, who spot on road in 1973 in mountains west of the flat of Round Valley. Too late for USFS man. Drove on toward Mendocino Pass to USFS station, then took paved road toward Indian Dick, where several spots in past. Station about 1700'. At 2000', oaks, D Fir, manzanita shrubs. Saw some P pine. Saw Oreortyx at edge road. 3000', dense second growth D Fir. 4000', dense DF, + black oaks, pines, some brush. / 10 mi. up road, Bald Ridge, 5000'. Jeep road on west. In area: incense cedar, Garrya, some 1/4 section near here young. (Did D Kelly [illegible] trail ridge in '75?). Rock outcrops. Many tracks cattle, some of deer. Few coyote tracks. I walked road 1/2 mi. +

tr. 1/2 ft. spot checked; no puma sign.

17 June 1976. Continued on toward Indian Dick Sta. Paved. Occas. logging truck on road. 3 mi. to Howard Lake road, paved; 4300'. Little Doe campground about 3800'. Willow Cr. rd. - graveled. About 16 1/2 mi. from Col R. sta., Beaver Glade, where a few USFS cabins, 3100'. Reported puma site. A mile on to H. Lake road to E, paved; log trucks on it. Dirt w. some gravel toward Indian D. Passed Alder Cr., 3400'. Pines, F D Fir, live oaks, openings. Tracks deer, bobcat. Deer Lick Cr. - slopes, live oaks; most D Fir; pines - roughly like W. slopes of Snow Mtn., Lake Co. - Road mod. grade. Coyote, deer; 3800'. Rattlesnake Cr. larger, several campers. Cabin + horse pasture at Ind. Dick 4300', Live oaks, scattered large pines. Beyond, crude dirt roads, unmarked forks. I explored some of these. Main one headed

Journal (puma)

17 June 1976. Mendocino N.F., Calif.

E. toward Goat Camp + wilderness area. Not appealing area for tracking. I drove back to Eel R. Sta., then up road toward Lower Gaps. [Conifers started about 3700'.] Construction machinery on road, to be oiled soon. From Mendocino Pass, took road N. to Wells Cabin and Lookout (Anthony Pk.). Tracking fair on these, but earlier traffic. To Anthony Pk LO, 6900'; ♀ LO, there part time last yr.; she knew 0 of pumas in area. Then down + to Govt. Flat. Road hard dirt, fine gravel. Drove on to Sugar Spr., in conifers (DF, pine, large), and on to Sunnyside [6100'], occas. spots for tracks. Took Longstone C. road - too hard; but better after Cattle Ridge back

equiv. mi, C.t. 5 mi — to east, 3 mi. / Drove S. then, past Plaskett Sta. to Ivory Mill Pass and Cabin Creek road. Logging now over. Drove down way, 3.1 mi. to 3500', below Happy Camp Cr. Road rough, rarely used. Spot checked; fairly hard

p.t. 1 — surface still. Walked up + down road, 4½ mi. Clear night.

Lake SA — 18 June 1976. At night heard spotted owl, close; bark + whistling calls. Heard Tamiasciurus early a.m. Many cattle tracks, which made good dust on trails or roadbed. I walked west on road down Cabin Cr.; impassable to cars. Dutch Oven Cr. Tracks bobcat, coyote, cattle. Saw suckling calves. Some big DF and P. pine, to 2' dbh. About Wescott Cr. on N., a winch working and a new logging road from N. (a high line working on S. side of Pine Knob). Heard Glaucidium calls; saw it land in live oak. Big bear track. Continued to 3400', about 4 mi. from Happy C. creek, 2 or 3 mi. east of Eel River. No puma

tracked w.-4 — tracks. / Returned upstream, spot checking. 4.2 mi. to Pacific Crest road. / Visited Ivory Mill Station; only 1 man there, who knew 0 of pumas and little of logging roads; fire crew absent. / Descended road to Elk Creek.

19 June 1976. Nr. Chester, Lake Almanor, Plumas Co. At Peninsula Village, Mr. Brydon of Cassino said that 2 years ago he + others saw a puma there, when starting construction; none since. Emma Callaghan of Chester said that neighbor McCollum had twice this

Journal

~~10~~ 20 June 1976. Sunday   N. Plumas Co., Calif.

year saw a puma in midday on main highway E. or W. of Chester; considered very unusual. Mrs. C. had been in or visiting this region for over 40 yrs, and said much deteriorated from increased logging, roads, people; fishing poor now in Feie Creek, where excellent through 1950's. This driest summer in memory of locals; lake way down, and roads now made out onto lake bed. Fishermen crowded at inlet stream. / Drove to Redding and to Lakehead R. Sta., Shasta Co., where missed B. Johnson, wildlife office. Continued on and out Hirz Mtn. road to McCloud R. bridge, 1200'. ~~Paved~~ Paved road to there. River low, <6' deep near bridge. Then broken old ~~pavement~~ blacktop & some trashholes, especially curves. Nosoni Cr. bridge; clear small stream, thick vegetation, very mixed. Camped nr. Nosoni Cr., sec. 2. Met 2 houndsmen, who had been up N. on that rd, about 5 mi.; they said good bobcat area. Said had treed a

rept. puma near Pine Point c/G, S. of McCloud Bridge, 2 wks. ago. They had also driven Curl Ridge road today. Said weather too dry for hounds. In Nosoni creek, I took 4 rainbow trout, 7–10", in 1/2 hr. Very rocky, brushy.

21 June 1976. Monday. Slowly checked road, incl. Nosoni Falls 1700' (SW, 1/4 S.2) curves, and on to Curl Ridge (N. Fk Mtn. LO) jct. 2300'. At one point (1.3 mi. from falls), single puma footprint at side of road, H p 47, 90 long. Mixed vegetation; dense low shrubs; DF and P pine dominant. At Curl R. jct. 2400', walked out Curl Ridge. Coarse gravel, dust spots, 4 w. drive road. Tracks of bear, bobcat. Walked 1 mile; too rocky for tracks, + steep parts. Back to junction & checked start of Salt Mtn. ~~rd~~ road, where

track found tracks in dust spot, 50 m. out road. H p 50, l 83; F p 57. H p 49, l 81. F p 55, l 81. RH } < concave. RF), round. Center lobe: h 17, f 16. Photod. / Saw hen Dusky flutter wings near her, brood chicks. / Left Curl Jct. for Squaw Cr. – 3.2 mi. on, 1500' (100 m), near Salt Creek, tracks inside curve of road. Area of DF, live oak, madrone, dense mixed understory.

LH pad 51 wide, 47 long } – slight <. Apparently smaller + larger cat, ♂ and ♀.

2 b+w photo, 1/200', f 3.5, f 16 + f 11, scale – m., bear adj.

Journal

Squaw Creek area —
21 June 1976. Shasta Co., Calif.

Fp 57 width 47 lng, toe 80, length 93 (longish!). p 54
Trails 2 Swollen track Hp. 46, toe 2 adv. ½ over #3 . Hp 45, t 63±, l 80±.
Hp 45 + Hp 53 Hp 44, toe 2 adv. 50% over #3. / Pair: Hp 45 (t 65, l 80), Fp 52.
(always in measurement: p smaller + Hp larger) Pair: Hp 47, Fp 53. / p 54, t 76, l 93, t 2 adv. 50%. / Fp 59, t 77,
l 95, t 2 50% adv. over #1, 25% over #3. Medial lobe angular > . /
Hp 44. / Hp 46, l 75. / pair Fp 53, Hp. 46, toe 2 50% adv. over #1.
Hp 46, t. 65. Fp 59 } ~40mm. All in dust 1–3mm. Continued on
road at least 200 m. / Bully Hill mine rd. (12 mi) jct. paved; rocky; 31 mi.
ctr. 4 to hwy. 299. / Then Squaw Cr. bridge 1300'; clear, big pools. Drove S. past Chip-
w! chatter c/g to and up Flat Cr. (Low Pass) road. Fair condition to summit; pass-
able to 2 wd. for 1.5 mi. Deer tracks. / Back to Brock Mtn. rd. and out it to S. Mostly
c 2 rocky, poor for tracking, but spots suitable; bear tracks. Continued
to Museum Bul. jct; too rough beyond. 1700'. 9.4 mi. from Sq. C. bridge.
22 June 1976. Tues. Went Drove out Brock Mtn. road again, about 5
ctr 2 mi. No puma tracks. / Visited FS station; most men just arrived, have
nothing to report. A new guard (Popenoe ?). Drove to Madrone c/g.,
ctr ½ mostly paved, several houses en route. Saw twin spotted fawns on
road. Also saw groups of 4 gray squirrels, twice in road, together; prob-
ably a recent brood. Beyond Madrone c/g, continued out road 2 mi. Brown
ctr 2 hard dirt. Raccoon tracks. Across Cooks Creek. Two jeep roads; took L
(Barbara) for ½ mi., where forded creek. / Returned back road to
Squaw Cr. Bridge, McCloud R. bridge, + back to Berkeley.
28 June 1976. Mon. Departed Berkeley 0800 and drove via Madera and
Friant to Shaver Lake, Fresno Co. (with Erik K) Lake about 50' below normal level. Talked
w. Melinda von Brassyt, USFS, about Red Mtn. Basin. Then drove to Court-
right Reservoir, also about 50' low, where about 20 cars or trailers parked.
Took road across dam and north in very rough road to c/g near at

Journal

28 June 1976. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

Mapon Mdws., thence NE to end road at Chamberlain Camp, about 8300' in lodgepole pines. Corral & shack there. 4 mi from Courtright dam. Hiked up trail toward Post Corral Creek. Sandy dust, horse traffic, & footprints [illegible]. Manzanita, green grass, glimpses of granite domes. Near P.C. creek, [illegible] pines, trail dirt firm. Crossed P.C. creek about 4 mi. (2 hrs.) out. Clear creek w. small EB trout. Coyote & deer tracks, but few. Mostly lodgepole pines. / Then trail ascended to E. Camped. Clear, calm night. Red Mtn Basin

tr. pt. 2 1

29 June 1976. Resumed hiking. Heard & saw Tamiasciurus in LP pines. Occasional large juniper tree. Over hump at 9200' into Fleming Cr. drainage. Good tracking on trail. Coyote, deer, dogs. Fleming Lake lined w. grass. Continued on to Red Mtn Basin, more open granite country. Saw Belding ground squirrels near creek about 10000', entered RM basin, mostly granite, w. several lakes. Pumas reported from ridge S. of Dale L., & on Red Mtn. Chapin L., 10440, small but saw trout in, one 8" (said to have rainbows). Heard pikas, saw marmot. Saw 4 Clark Nutcrackers in one pine. Hell-for-Sure lake clear, blue; lean EB trout took fly midday. Bunches of whitebark pine. Clear ~~but~~ & windy. / Cross country to Arctic Lake, small & deep w. huge boulders. Then west around Horseshoe Lake (EB trout), Black Rock L. (4" trout; clearest water), & on to Devil's Punchbowl in lodgepole pine. Much recreational use there apparently; campsites, trails. Easy fishing for 8" EB trout. Camped. No night birds heard.

fr. w. 6

30 June 1976. Returned to Chapin Lake. Then north cross-country to Diamond X Lake, 10800'. Pikas, marmots, nutcrackers. Rare shrubby pines. Clear w. vegetated bottom, rainbow trout to 10." Continued on to Davis Lake, w. mostly grassy beach, willow shrubs surrounding, mud bottom. A productive lake w. rainbows to 12", golden trout, and rare EB trout; some rainbows w. 4 mm. eggs & all sizes fingerlings, apparently breeding.

Journal

30 June 1976. Nr. Mt Henry, Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

tr. pt. – 2 Pikas heard in talus slides. Found porcupine quills. Saw only one party hikers. Clear day w. breeze. Camp. –

1 July 1976. Some cirrus clouds; frost in low wet spots. Hiked back to Fleming Lake (coyote tr.; saw 2 deer), Post Corral Cr., Chamberlain Camp. Met several riding parties en route, including 2 dogs. Found bear track

tr. foot – 6 at about 8200'. Tracking fair on trail. about 10 mi., 5½ hrs. / Drove to Wishon area, then Markwood Mdws. / Dave van B. said no recent U.S.F.S. reports puma. More roads + paving in prospect, & giant Helms Cr. project including draining of Courtright Res. for 2 yrs. / Viewed lion kill drag marks

kill drag marks near Bald Mtn. summit – still fairly clear after weeks (since June 2) – so presence feeding puma should be obvious on suitable ground. / ~~Returned to~~

2 July 1976. Returned to Berkeley.

8 July 1976. Depart 0800 for Mendocino Nat. Forest via Stonyford. There talked w. Lynn Murray, Dist. Ranger. He hunted deer, thought more pumas than bears. Said there had been kill found near Pole Gate, on Open Ridge, also reports near Goat Mtn., Potato Hill, Little Stony road, + a few other spots (about same as in USFS records via J. Lorenzana). He said cattle in Cabin Cr. area for first time in about 15 yrs. Murray seemed cooperative, interested. Thought deer pops. (Ducks) improved this year. / I took road 18N02 to ~~Black~~ Diamond Mtn. up through chamise; increasing Ceanothus, Digger pine. Light gravel on road; about 5 c 2 (on 0-5 scale). To lookout, 3200'; abandoned now. Then to Open Ridge. Trackable at curves & occas. at sides; had been little traffic. Down to about 2600', where glades, blue oak, juniper. Pole Gate (near sign) 3000' on ridge, glades, Digg. Pine, blue oaks, cattle, brush. Continued to Bucket Camp rd. (4100') in live oaks, PP, manzanita, Sugar P. (50+ cones, 8"; on same). Gray squirrel ~~squirrel~~ cone cores. ~~cobs~~ Stakes indicate road repair planning at ~~...~~ washout (fixed in 77?). Roads too hard for good tracking. / I returned down road, then north & up Swampy Mill Saddle road

Journal

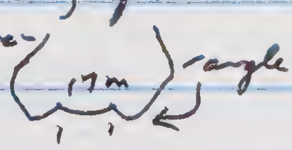
8 July 1976 - Thurs. Mendocino N.F. w. Glenn Co., Calif.

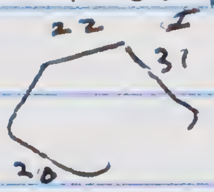
road. Drove out Fellner Ridge branch, 19N04, 1 mile; large conifers. Tracks deer, coyote. Checked upper Happy Camp R. rd. (In Study Area); too gravelly – coyote, cattle, deer tracks. Top of Brushy C. R. rd., much sign traffic; dusty. On to Anderson Ridge upper rd. Traffic about 4 mi., but dust; then road descended N. Cattle, deer, coyote tracks.

c. tr. – 4 mi. ~~[illegible]~~ (0 on 5 area) Camped on ridge 6 mi out, 4700' (~~1.2 mi before~~ ~~[illegible]~~). Heard no night animals. Clear, calm, warm, mosquitoes.

9 July 1976. Friday. Clear, calm. SC 3-4. Dust. Anderson Ridge. Tracks cattle, deer, coyotes. Continued out A. ridge. about 8 mi from Pac. Cut, road forks. .6 mi, fork to Middle Anderson Spur to E, 4000'. Walked on spur where good dust, stirred up by cattle. Found puma tracks (prof. (prob. lev. 13)) coming up road. about 1 mile E. of CdR. Took photos. Hind track: p 50, t 70, l. 80; 50-74-80, 51-70-85; front h. 56-79-80. Tracks for at least 200 m. on road.

B+W 1 200 F11 2 3 4 — Track





. I drove slowly back up Anderson Ridge. Tracks large bear, + coyote, deer. 3.4 mi. to flat where FS eqpt, 4600'. Then on to Pacific Cut, 8.6 mi. Wheel traffic + good dust last 4 mi. / Helicopter logging to E. of Shelterin Mtn. Talked w. Gary Blyth, USFS. / Drove to top of Shelterin Mtn. Cattle & bear tr. on top. Took road 19N21 down on S. side. Cattle on road. Main rd. freshly graded dirt. Pessimist Ridge (2 mi; too hard & rocky. Long R. (1 mi) likewise. To Low Gap pass – checked road sides, + 1/8 mi. out Bearwallow trail. around Bouncy Loop. / Then tracked down Bear Creek road, starting 5000', mod gravel but dust 3 on parts. at 3600', tracks, pad 51, toe 70, area of black oaks. Prairie. 50 m on, more, tho poor definition. Then 4.8 mi. down. Took lookdown (#2). Same as on Anderson? (check photos). 1.1 mi on to Lower Nye c/g. + on to Shelter Slide trail (1.4 mi), then back up road. 1.3 mi, old track (same?) – Hp 53, t 75, 90 l. Fp 65, t 83, l. 91.

Koda. 1 H 2 LH (= #1)
track – 6 mi. width – 1 mi
c. tr. – 1
c. tr. 1 w – 1/2
track
Koda. (= #2) #0-2
c. tr. – 4 mi

/ Back up to Summit Rd. and

Journal

9 July 1976 Mendocino N.F.

drove to Low Gap and on to Brushy Camp Ridge road. Much dust at start,
c.t.-1 braved down to water hole. upper road gravelly; spot checked. Checked hairpin
turn where tracks last summer. Camped atop ridge; again calm, clear,
warmish, mosquitoes.

10 July 1976. Saturday. Continued west. Gravelly road to jct. w. Hayward
c.t.-3 Cr. rd. (4800'). Then graded, loose dirt, SC 3-4. 1.7 mi. on, puma track.
F p57-t86-l78. Continued through groups of several bulldozers & a
B+W #6-11 truck, passing w/i 5m of some, in area of oily smell. Measurements:
K-(#3,4,5) 3 of pair H 54, t80, 90l.; p55-t74-l98; ad♂? 28 ?
F 60-87-80; 64-86-80; 58-t89-l80
In about 5 mm dust. Lead about 3½"
In deep dust, tracks in register. Tracks for about .4 mi. Mt. Quail
tracks near same. Tracks over same human boot tracks. / .8 mi farther
to road block & ditch, 3700'. Tractor marks. Many cattle tracks. Heard
c.t.-2 chickaree? Poor road-trail below to W., descending. / Returned up road &
up Hayward Cr. rd. (more traffic, poor dust). / Went .6 mi on 19N13; porcupine
c-t.1 tracks. Down 1 mi. to E. Fk Corbin cr.; poor old roadbed on. / Drove down 20N06
Corbin Cr. rd., spot checking 10/mi., to Creek - 3 mi. Light gravel. Cattle
tracks, deer tr., coyote tr.; SC 1-3. / Returned to Pacific Crest rd. and
drove N. Took road NW of Summit Springs, dusty. Many dog tracks.
c.t.-1 Checked 20N33 for 1½ mi. Then west on 21N02 about 1.4 mi, where a 50' 100'
tracks ♂ flat dusty old spur entering in saddle at 5600', and puma tracks. H p50 t76,
p56 t77; F p62 t90 l85. Apparently same big ♂ cat. B+W photos.
B+W 11-14 Tracks crossed road heading N, but some headed S (older?). Tracks
K 1 hard crossed road and berm at N. side. From there, .2 mi on to
c.t. #7-3 road 20N02, ▽, on .8 mi on to Pillsbury L. jct. Good dust, Co. Rd. 311
some over 1" deep. / Took Co rd 311, Bear Wallow. 1.8 mi on, again

Journal

10 July 1976. Mendocino Nat. For.

w-1 found tracks, 5500', on outer edge road in dust. Hp 55 t 80 l 95.
Also one at inner edge; apparently crossed road at 15' high bank, no
B+W 16 saddle. F $6^p 4$ $10^t 0$. Loose dust. / Road continued dusty, some-
times 4" or +. Harder about 4 mi from jct; still 4000' Coyote &
bobcat tracks. 1945, I drove back up road to camp near jct.

11 July 1976. Sunday. Clear cool night; no cars passed. at 0639 checked
turnout where tracks yesterday - none new. To junction & started tracking
down Kneecap Ridge road. Good dust, SC 3-4. Tracks of bobcat,
coyote, deer. 1.4 mi. to Sheep Ridge rd. 3.4 mi, logging rd 5.- porcu-
tracks 07 pine tracks, near county line. 4.5 mi, 5600', large puma tracks;
area of P pine, red fir, inc. cedar on slope to S.

B+W 18-19 Hp 56 - t 78 - l 90. [sketch] angled. Hp 55 - Hp Fp 63, Fp 66.
Tracks (F-3) for at least 150 m on road, then down dusty spur for
N-8 75+ m. These fresh. Near Kneecap. / On down; dust less, SC
2-3, later none yet. 10.2 mi down, hit main road at Low Gap, 4000'.
/ From L. Nye c/g to Bear W. ridge, tracks in about 1½ mi. distance -
anderson & Nye pumas smaller male; check photos. 2 ♂♂. / about
48 mi. from Low Gap to Upper Lake. Many cars & people near Lake Pill-
sbury; start of archery deer season. Dirt road S. of Pillsbury but
last 17 mi. paved. / Returned to Berkeley. Message from W. Macgregor
telling of lion kill near Brushy Mdw in Weston Lake area, Sierra N.F.

15 July 1976. Departed Berkeley midday for Sonora, to confer w. Jim
Maddox, Dept. F&G. biologist who had furnished map of puma records.
Only one this year, near Rawhide, NW of Jamestown. He recommended (Summit) Tom Beck,
(Arnold) Dave Seaslean, & Mike Ross, (Groveland) biologists at ranger stations, for infor-
mation on current records. / Maddox said thought fawn survival better
in 75 than '74, but deer still low nos. He said Pilot Ridge near

Journal

15 July 1976. Thursday. Sonora, Tuolumne Co.

poor for deer. Maddox here since 1968. Hunts & fishes. Worked on deer, including Tuolumne R. Also recommended Game Warden Harry Harris at Mariposa. Exchanged ideas w. Maddox; he had read my puma report, he said. / I drove up hwy. 108 to Strawberry, then on to road NW toward middle fork Stanislaus R., & down to road to Donnell Res., 4700' (I was there 27 June 1975). Road coarse sand, & light rain started, so tracking poor, SC 1-2. River very low, clear w. little white water. I drove to fork at Donnell, to start morning tracking there. 8 miles of tracking road. / Saw Oreortyx with small young (volant?).

16 July 1976. Friday. Heavy rain for 1/2 hr. in early morning. Slowly drove back S. on road but tracking conditions poor, no tracks found. / Drove up to Summit R.S. and talked w. Tom Beck, wildlife man, formerly at Sonora. He had a few puma records from last year, out on the Donnell in road about Sec. 29. Two in Brightman Flat zone on upper Stanislaus. He now has 7 asst. from Humboldt State. Briefed them on puma tracks. They suggested Crandall Pk. - Star Ridge areas for tracking roads. No puma reports yet this year. I left descriptive accts. / Rain had spoiled tracking conditions, so drove down to Sonora to USFS hdqtrs., where tried to see Bob Stoker (too busy w. fires). / Drove then via Columbia and Murphys to Arnold, on hwy. 4. Tried to find Dave Ainsley, but away. / Drove up Ebbetts Pass road, where puma reports in '73 & '75 (Bear Valley - Hermit Valley). Lower areas mixed conifers, w/o current logging, like other w. slope Sierra roads. Bear V. about 7000', in lodgepole p. zone, & Hermit V. higher - not likely for resident pumas. Harry Schimpke had mentioned Mokelumne canyon above Salt Spr.; difficult access & no specific reports. Examined turnouts & spurs for sign. Returned to Tamarack and took

Journal

16 July 1976. S   Calaveras Co., Calif.

dirt road down to Stanislaus R., N. Fk. – low + slow. Rain hardened dirt.

17 July 1976. Saturday. Returned via Angels Camp to Berkeley in morning. / at 8000; S. slopes had some large yellow pines. Ebbetts Pass in mt. hemlock – whitebark pine zone; hills of basalt. Found dead marmot ♀ on road; kept skull only.

21 July 1976.   To nr. Cholame, Calif.

Drove S. via hwy. 5 to Cholame, thence up Palo Prieto Canyon to Elen McMillan ranch. Talked w. Cl. about pumas; condors (some still think possibly in San Pedro Mártir), 1080 (recent aerial poisoning near his place; a raven + coyote found dead) + pressure to use it on HLMR as well as on Camp Roberts. Arranged trip to Dover Canyon area.

22 July 1976. Thursday. With Cl, departed his ranch 0730 and drove via Paso R. + hwy. 46 to Cypress Mountain Road, paved branch. Up it 1½ mi. to Nick & Elsie Marquart ranch (1600') (in-laws of Cl.). Nick raised here; 60 yrs.; father here before. Now 1100 acres; about 2 lambs taken per year now; formerly 6–7. Had never seen puma in daylight, but twice at night. Possibly more reports now than in old days. Hunter last year said saw ♀ w 2 cubs on his ranch. Ranch includes bottom of canyon in oak-grassland, w steep slopes each side rising into chaparral. Band of large oaks near lower edge of chaparral on Black Mtn. Also small sandstone outcrops there; Nick said that Steve Matthes thought Black Mtn was ideal lion country. Ranchouse about 1600'. Formerly ranch included ridge to E., where Mrs. Keith had put sheep + suffered depredations. Lion had killed 20+ in corral. Later killed some at lower level. (Mrs. Max Keith (allison?), up Dover C., 1st on W. – I phoned her; willing to talk but busy today. Sheep said to be expensive breed, + none previously on that land. / The well

CKoford

Journal

22 July 1976. Nr. Adelaida, S.L. Obispo Co.

Koda- where puma found last year was about 1/2 mile up the road, only 100' off paved road. Casing of steel, about 30" diam., & water about 15 feet down. Took

Koda.-well kodachrome; El took others. Nick told about Lowell Adams, former lion trapper, who lived on Vineyard Rd. to S. of hwy. 46. Eldon Bergman, lion hunter currently, lived on V. rd. to N. of hwy. 46. / He Nick said had lost several cattle to rustlers, one recently shot w. arrow & neck cut w.

Koda.- Black Mtn from NE knife. No deer kills by lion found. / El & I drove on up road. Good views of Black Mtn. (photo) + Cypress Mtn. Big grassy clearings, rather thick mixed brush, + oaks, madrone, bay, digger pines, some Coulter pines on ridges. 7-X ranch development of homesitters near crests. From top, S. of Cypress Mtn. (= Jack Mtn.?), took road down by Klau Mine - fair spot tracking

e.t. eq. 2 at sides & curves. At bottom, clear stream & shady. Took road to Chimney Rock, paved; mostly grassland & oaks; probably too low for regular occurrence pumas. Continued on to Paso R. + returned to Cholame. Then to Sam McM. Ranch. Sam gone to Salinas. Area very dry & barley crops had been poor (< 900 lbs/A). Moderate quail reprod. near buildings & good survival there. Apparently food nutrition tho short. Many cottontails, young, on El McM. lawn. / We saw one bobcat about 1/2 mile before Marquart house, in flat in bottom.

Nr. Pozo, S.L. Obispo Co.

23 July 1976. Friday. Telephoned USFS, Santa Maria. Harley Greenman transferred to Downieville R.S. & replacement not yet arrived (Tom Bopster?). Drove there via hwy. 58 to Nat. Forest + up Navajo camp rd. to pass nr. Black Mtn. 5 mi. of 10/mi. spot tracking. Saw several

e. tr. eq. = 3 mi. coveys Lophortyx, incl. many juvs., espec. nr. Navajo Camp. Creeks dry now. Pass about 2700 ft. Old blacktop road on downhill side to Pozo. / At guard station, Sam Trotter said no reports lions or condors this year. I talked w. fire crew boys + gave them papers

Journal

23 July 1976. Fri. To Avenales R., S. L. Obispo Co.
talk + track info. Telephoned Audrey (Sham ??) at Hi Mtn. She at
Branch Mt. LO last year - said saw condors, up to 3 at once, us-
ually toward Canyon 35. She said heard lion toward Buckhorn Ranch.
She said had seen no condors at Hi mtn. / I took road to Hi Mtn,
c.tr. -3 spot tracking. Good dust on some turns. Partly paved to jct. at
2100' (Trout Cr. jct.) I took Little Falls Cr. road 4 miles. Spots good
for tracking, tho mostly too hard. Turned back on chaparral ridge,
2400' (overlooking hwy. to S. Margarita). / Back to Trout Cr. jct. +
down that road to SE. Fair tracking, SC 3. Creek dry. Live oaks
c.tr. -2 in bottom. Went 2 mi., then back N. / Drove to American Canyon,
Avenales Ranch. Ame. C. road good dust; bear tracks, deer. New
c.tr. 2 c/g deserted, but will be busy in deer season. Salinas R. + trib-
utaries dry. / Drove toward hdqtrs. Saw bobcat in oak-
grassland. Saw doe w. fawn, doe w 1 buck in velvet. / I drove
up road to Pilitas. Hot dry day. Gate about 3000'. Continued on
to microwave sta., spot tracking. Roads partly old blacktops;
c.tr. 2 tracking spotty. Found no puma sign. Camped on top.

24 July 1976. Saturday. Clear, ~~calm~~ warm; E. wind 15 mph. 3900'.
Drove down to Pilitas gate + parked. Cattle in pasture. (Cattle on
ranch reduced 1/2 - now only 290 cows. Ranch about 15 mi.
long, 1 - 5 mi. wide). I hiked N. to ridge toward Machesna Mtn.
SC 5 in cattle trails. About 1 1/4 mi to dust bed at wire gate on
w -2 ridge, 3500'. No puma sign. Coyote tracks. On 1/2 mile to dust
wallows in broad saddle in chaparral. Again no puma tracks
(have some ~~on~~ previous visits). Fox tracks. / I returned to Pilitas gate.
Then drove down and down Alamo Cr. to Sheep Cr. + Kennel Cr., spot
tracking. SC 5 in spots. Out to Branch Mtn. gate, + head Canyon 35.

Journal

24 July 1976. Saturday. Arenales R., SLO? Kings Co.

c to 4 — 2100'. Found no puma sign. Road beyond too hard, SC 1. Car developed alarming noises in U-joint. Returned to S. McMillan ranch.

25 July 1976. Returned to Berkeley.

30 July 1976. Fri. Berkeley to Dinkey Creek area, Fresno Co.

Departed noon on ~~overcast~~ clear day & drove to Markwood Mdw., where overcast. Sprinkled at night. Rec'd note from Ron Bertram – said had photos of

kill — deer killed by puma near Bear Creek to Brush Mdw. rd.; said ♂ sign tracks, perhaps same as near Bear Cr. last year. Sprinkle of rain at night.

31 July 1976. Sat. Started on trip to Pearl Lake area in Blackcap Basin, Sierra N.F., but rain delayed start. Much road constr. along road, preparing for Helms Cr. project. / Departed Woodchuck trailhead 1215. Ascent across conifer slopes where small streams + deer tracks. 1350, crossed Woodchuck Cr., 3½ mi.

w-6 w 5? — About 6½ mi. to first jct. to Woodch. Lake, + 2 more to ½ mile to lake brand, about 10,000'. About 2 more to mi. to Crown Basin, where main Crown L. and Sierra

w-5 — Crest where clear. Fresh tracks of animals rare. Upper levels open lodgepole pine. Saw Clark Nutcrackers. Down to Halfmoon Lake, arriving shortly before dark. Spectacular setting w granite cliffs one side. Brook trout only.

1 August 1976. Sun. Rain about 2 hrs. in night, lightning storm. Then 2/10 cumulus. Currants small & green still. Trail rain washed & poor for tracks. About 3½ mi to jct. w. North Fk. of Kings. Water high but clear; colorful trout to 7," orange bellies, strong char marks on sides; some small brookies. Occas tracks

w-5 — 1 deer; rarely 1 coyote; no bobcat tracks. Lodgepole pine country. Saw scat two deer incl. 1 antlered on side trail. / Crosscountry for last mile to Pearl Lake, where camped ~~on~~ under granite boulder to avoid probable rain. Lake water ~~slightly~~ slightly turbid but no lower than late last summer, as judged by outlet flow (almost 0). Overcast, mod. wind, cold; rare rises of trout. Light new snow on highest peaks, but rare small patches old snow in high

Journal

1 August 1976. Sun. Sierra Nat. For., Fresno Co.

pockets near Finger Peak. Several pairs of Brewer blackbirds. Juncos frequent. Marmot droppings frequent near burrows under boulders.

2 August 1976. Mon. No rain at night, nearly clear morning. Sue & I hiked to Eve Lake, Division Lake, Bighorn L., Ambition L. Division & Bighorn had rainbow trout, larger in former. Bighorn shallower, especially edges. Ambition L. spectacular & deep; only brook trout. Returned to Pearl Lake, where Ralf K. & Bonnie Bowman had arrived. None of us had observed Belding squirrels. S + K hiked to Cathedral Lake, clear & deep w. little water life; saw no evidence fish (tho rainbows reported there & in Midway). Returned to Pearl Lake. Occasional C. lateralis on rocks. No pikas heard, nor sign. No evidence recent human visitors.

w-4

3 August 1976. almost clear, calm. Fished w. Ralf at Division L. Breeze increased in morning. About 1200, departed w. Sue for Woodchuck trailhead. N. Fork water considerably lower than on Sat. Saw 2 deer. Sue saw 2 spotted fawns. Monardella in flower. a group was camped at Halfmoon L. We hiked on to near western Woodchuck L. junction & camped. About 8000' saw large gray finch w red head; =

Saw deer tracks, 1 doe, rare coyote tracks, no bobcat tr. Dust especially good in last miles. No puma sign during entire trip, tho one large old possible dropping. / Drove back to Marshwood Mdw. via Brush Camp Mdw. and upper Bear Cr., all now oiled, & branch road toward Hatch Lake too. / Drove back to Berkeley, about 230 mi.

tr.-foot count 20mi: 31-3

12 August 1976. Departed Berkeley &, drove to Hastings Reservation, To Monterey Co. where picked up Jim Griffin. We drove on via Arroyo Seco to Shandon and San McMillan Ranch, San Luis Obispo Co. Jim described plant ecology of California & coast range. We planned to visit Orchard Peak area w. Sam. Sam said quail reprod. poor this year except near Kerry, where fed.

Journal

13 August 1976. Fri. San Luis Obispo Co. & NW Kern Co.

With Sam McM., Jim Griffin, & Carla Koford, drove via Annette to Keck's Corner. Last now surrounded by irrigated crops, largely cotton. We went a few mi. toward Devil's Den, then W. toward Orchard Peak on small dirt road, where Sam had 400 acres. T-gate near Tent City area, then walked W. up long dry canyon. Area burned in large fire in 1966. Mostly dry grass hills now but patches of brush & rock outcrops. Before fire, Sam & A S Leopold had hunted quail there. Spring near 1500' and 1600' in canyon bottom. Saw Calif. quail tracks & droppings. Cattle grazing in grasslands. Occasional deer track, and of 1 coyote. Old raven nests in one line of high rough cliffs w. colorful lichens. About ~~2000~~'; spring in bottom among boulders (sandstone); verbena & other plants (Jim collected some). Flushed gp. 3 chukars above 2500 ft. Occasional juniper tree. Cattle sign to 2500' at least. Fresh car tracks too. Highest 3000' ridge mostly grassland, but fine views 350° from top, 3400'. A small radio relay box w. sign: Kern Commercial Co, 2315 Q St., Bakersfield. 805/327-9571. Would have been good condor obs. point in late 1940's. Crude road heading NW (not graded; car tracks). Season dry & day hot. / We saw 2 deer (no antlers) near head of main cliffy canyon. / We had gone thru most of the BLM land & looked for justification as ~~Natural~~ Research Natural Area. Jim thought good example of habitat little known & disappearing. / On way down flushed 6± chukars near the verbena spring. / Returned to McM. Ranch. Talked quail, pumas, other problems w. Sam. / Bonnie Bowen & Reg Smith were here last eve after setting traps for mice near Queen Bee camp; trapped near Hi Mtn. previous nite & reported abundant P. boylii, some P. californicus. Rested from the trip.

R #12
-7E

K → NW
Castle Mtn

14 August 1976. With Carla & Jim, departed from McM. Ranch and drove to Hastings Reservation. Talked briefly w. Betty Davis. Then I went on to Berkeley.

Journal

22 August 1976.   To Sierra Nat. Forest.

Departed Berkeley 1 p.m. & drove via Los Banos & Madera to Markwood Mdws. near Dinkey Creek. Melinda van Brocygt had made cast of front & hind footprint of a large male puma, tracks on trail (passed near salt block) about 100 m. N. of the green house. Tracks noted 7 August; I saw the casts. Hind foot (?) pad diam. 65 mm, ~~in~~ pressed 10 mm. deep. Apparently same cat as found nr. Ode Flat jct. 6 May, & previous fall ... in Providence Cr. / 224 mi. from home to Markwood Mdw. Mod. cumulus clouds. Saw ♂ Chukar on road at sugar pine cone near Shaver L. Fishing Club gate.

tracks ♂ ~~Aug 55~~

23 August 1976. Clear, calm, cool. I checked site of puma kill & drag near Bald Mtn Summit. To S. of road, drag marks of deer feet still fairly obvious, about 2 months after kill. Kill drags better than tracks for detecting pumas? / Talked w. (Fire patrolman) Jones at Dinkey Cr. Sta. No reports tho heard of kill. / I drove up ~~Dinkey~~ Bear Cr. to Hatch Lake road, now oiled. Checked ground nr. junction. Near Bear Mdw. road jct., found camp of 2 Fresno ~~State~~ students & their several tame deer. They said one had 3 pts. antlers on one side as yearling, & a yearling ♀ had produced twin fawns. The Deer were wild-caught as fawns. They had seen no puma sign. / Went 1 mi. out dirt Bear Mdw. rd. — coyote & deer tr. / Back to jct. and N. to Hatch L. rd. jct. on freshly oiled road; checked for tracks. Back to Bear Cr. bridge. Met USFS man who showed me area of puma deer kill, (in July) prob. S. part of S. 23, about 1 mile out on logging spur in recently logged area. Ron Hempel had viewed carcass after reported by loggers. Dragged 50± yds., across spur road. Paunch pulled out & hole in side; tooth marks on neck. R. Benton has photos. Victim was doe in good condition, w. radiocollar (not working) and kill apparently no struggle (Hempel). Near landing #33? of loggers, 6800'. Red fir forest. Benton & Hempel said tracks large ♂ size, but too poor to measure. I drove on to Wishon Work Center, where F& G trailer; no one there. To end of

@ tr. 1

deer, killed

Journal

23 August 1976. Wishon Res. area, Fresno Co.

c. tr. 1 + 1/2 — Report - Hoffman — Tracks Body. R.

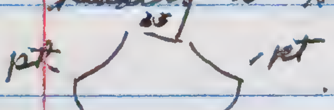
Little Rancheria road, where 1/4 mile dirt roads. Aird pack horse stay, bound for Crown Mdw. / Drove up Hoffman Mtn rd 2 mi to 7800'. Substr. sand 2-3 at edges. (Gordon Ashcraft heard from - that same tracks recently near Smith Mdw. (?), about 8000', farther up this road, about a week ago. / Spot tracked 1.4 mi. west road N. of Rancheria Cr.; dead end. / Met Rangel. Said Barry Waller sight record last winter about N edge S. 29 [S. of study area]; also tracks larger on trail toward Mill Flat. Large. /

c. tr. 1

Next I drove road from Wishon Dam to SSW, edge Granite Gorge, 4 mi. - too rocky for adequate tracking; spot tracked. / Continued down road toward Black Rock sta. for 4 1/2 mi. to 5500', spot tracking. Too much wheeled traffic for obs. late in day. / Returned to Markwood Mdw.

c. tr. 1

24 August 1976. Looked at tracks near salt lick & houses. Old tracks, before rains on 14th, still visible, heading E. A few fresher, since rain, heading W. Hindfoot pad 60-65 mm. wide. Forefoot toe with wide lateral "wings"



Front pad 80 wide, 60 long, 35 wide at ant. edge in 10 mm deep impression. / A deer committee meeting starts here today; F&G & USF men. Red Hunt of F&G, Murray (sups. of Sierra N.F.), ranger dist. men, Dave Chesemore, Bob Nelson of SFO office of F.S. - about 25 in all. I talked w. many. / Drove down Providence Cr. road, newly graded & graveled; new ascent route down. Last mile still sandy dirt. Checked to edges, [illegible]. / Then to top of Barner Mtn. & down to Big Cr. - mostly too hard for tracking. / Then east on Nutting Cutoff, also fairly hard & still ungraded; spot tr. 4 mi to Nutting Saddle, 4827'. Dust also poor there. / Returned N. Last meadow dirt stretch also still hard. Back to Markwood & again talked w committee men: M. Bardin of Seq. N.P., John Lorenzana of Sierra N.F., Bill Stewart. Last said former trapper (Longstreet?) now lived at Ershquer Mdw. Bertram said that Dave Sellage (sp.?) of Dinkey park sta. had reported cubs last yr. near Coyote Pass, Kettle Ridge area.

c. tr. 1 — c. tr. 1 — c. tr. 1

Committee mostly partied & stayed overnight.

25 August

Tom Myall (Dist. Rgr.) said had seen tracks this summer at Statum Mdw.; large. Myall formerly of San Bernardino

Journal

~~24~~ 25 August 1976 Wed. Sierra N.F., Fresno Co.

Reports – S. Bern. N.F. N.F. said lion trapped about 1968 on San Bernardino. Also one spotted by L.O. there; sign in R. Sta. Reports Lytle C. area. Also said one had threatened dog near Cajon L.O. (above Green Mtn. Mdw.), Pittman C. area on S.B. N.F. / F & G man said cub taken at Auberry was being held for tending & release, in ~~Fresno~~ Fresno area. / Kim Wright, USFS at Dinkey Cr., said he was told yesterday that a man had reported lion skeleton in cave near Muley Hole, Dinkey Cr. Skeleton not there last year. Kim will try to get location today. / Committee had lather. Overcast, 8/10 but calm this morning. No new puma tracks in salt block path area. / On roads, last 2 days, I have seen several O. ?; and about 5 chickarees (one chased another across paved road). Many Citellus & C. lat. ?; & buckeyes, active. / Bertram said in Feb. went to top of Patterson

tracks Mtn. & saw puma track, about 8000'. / Tim Wright, USFS, Dinkey Cr., said a man told him yesterday of a puma skeleton in a cave by Dinkey Creek,

skeleton rept. between Muley Hole & Ross Crossing, close to water. Seen recently, but not there last summer. Man was to return to office this afternoon. / I checked for tracks on sideroads near Summit C. & c/g & Bald Mtn. summit trail. Then spot checked Dinkey Mdw. road – much graveled & dirt hard, so poor for tracks except in spots – spot checked to Oak Flat Rd. jct. Saw gray squirrel w. sugar pine cone (many cones this year) and many piles of cone scales. Returned to Dinkey Cr. sta.; the man

c. tr. | foot tr. | had not come. / Returned to Marshall Mdw. camp. / Art Rohrbacher, F.S., Trimmer – thought about 5000 head cattle on Sierra N.F.

26 August 1976. Clear & calm. Checked at Dinkey station, but man w. info about skeleton had not come. Dave S. not back at ranger station, but I talked w. "Slim," who said had packed all over the region & had seen no sign of lions. / / Then to Shaver L. ranger sta., & talked w. Ken Quick. He had the puma records, 13 reports last year on Pineridge District. Two at Corbett L. & on Tamarack Ridge + Tamarack Ridge – seemed unquestionable. (Stamps Apr. rd. 2/3 mile now.) One on Billy Cr. at Huntington Lake. One Dawlton Cr. Markham Rock near ~~[illegible]~~ was one, reported ?

~~patent~~ He was [illegible], but high alt. [illegible]

Glen Overstreet
Arch. Mdw. – canyon,
Road constr. – former lion trapper
(Bill Stewart)

Journal

26 August 1976 - Sierra Natl. Forest, Fresno Co. Calif.

sign. Would like to be [illegible] avenues. [illegible] ran out. / I went on

to road near [illegible] dam (lake very low) to [illegible] basin. Spot track-

-ed [illegible]. Searched 2 [illegible] of crossings on [illegible] Road to

[illegible] most [illegible]; SC 2. Continued spot tracking to [illegible] Cr. [illegible]

C.t. -3 to [illegible] Cr. - about 12 mi. in all. / Then to North Fork; [illegible].

On to [illegible] Stn. & talked w. Porter & [illegible] of fire crew; they had

been reporte[d] last year. Porter had taken track photos on [illegible] road near

Lion Pt., about 4000, [illegible] conifer zone [illegible] [illegible] Lake. [illegible]

[illegible]; had reported one near [illegible] road [illegible]. Mitch [illegible]

said he [illegible] at [illegible] Lake (Wintering area for deer [illegible]

Lion Point, [illegible] Canyon, [illegible] Porter) [illegible] shots. / On to

Vista Pt. in ponderosa pine. Mammoth Pool Res. much drawn down.

Back to Rock Creek & up road toward [illegible] Pass. [illegible] light poor;

ctr. -1 some [illegible] at roadside. Camped on top of ridge, about 6600'.

Clear & calm. [illegible] mi. from Rock Cr. to trailhead. / Many squirrel [illegible]

cones. On road up, [illegible] fir zone but top mostly pines.

27 August 1976 - Fri. Clear, calm, warm. Hiked up [illegible] Pass trail about 1

F.t. tr. -1 mi. to ridge pass S of S. peak. [illegible] P. pine & manzanita.

No puma sign. Dog tracks. / On road up from Rock Cr. [illegible].

To [illegible] Mdw. jct. & headed toward [illegible] Camp. Cut over [illegible]

[illegible]. Jct. to Central Camp 5900'. Much [illegible] fir. Road

R tr. -2 hard dirt; SC 2-3. Spot tracked. Three [illegible] w. cattle. Then to

campground w. 10± trailers, many people; [illegible]. [illegible]

SC 2-3, [illegible]

[illegible] toward [illegible] Pk. L.O. Dirt but dust poor

about 3 mi. [illegible], then up slopes. Crest of ridge 4.1 mi out

R tr. – road at 7100' in Red Fir zone ([illegible] 6800'). Road [illegible] to-

C tr. -2
F.t. tr. -1 ward L.O. No puma sign. Deer tracks on road. [illegible]

Journal

27 August 1976. Sierra NF Madera Co., Calif.

c tu.-1 road & headed N. toward Beasore Mdws. Edgar rd. SC 2-3; report tracked. Handout w. some grease. Hit main oiled rd. 3 mi. before Beasore Meadows. Took it down to Bass Lake. To Oakhurst where talked w. man Pearson Forestry, Kit Perkins. Formerly at Sequoia; puma reports scarce there. Gave him page talk & took 10 handouts. Then drove on to Berkeley on hot day.

31 Aug. 1976. The moratorium extension to 1978 passed by state legislature on 26 Aug. Talked w. Dick Weaver of F&G on telephone. He wants to discuss plans for future puma research. Says hunters in [illegible] Mts. Have treed 7 pumas but radiotagged only 2 (no returns?). Is Weaver heading toward re-evaluating [illegible] in view of my reports?

1 Sept. 1976. Departed [illegible] & drove to Willows, USFS. New wildlife man Leon Fisher, formerly of Modoc, Angeles & Los Padres (left 1968). Friendly & seemed reliable. He said saw puma near S end of

report Warner Mts. last year. would encourage reports there year. / Drove on (100° in Sacramento) to USFS ranger sta. beyond Redding, B. Johnson out. Continued on north. Shasta L. very low – only muddy shallow stream near Lakehead bridge, not a lake. Took Lamoine Road to W. Graded & graveled but dusty; but had heavy truck traffic from loggers. Continued to Castle Lake Cr. (running well, clear, w. 6" rain [illegible]) and on to La Moine Mill site where camped.

2 Sept. 1976. Shasta N.F. Coyote calls a.m. Early truck traffic. Ascended road to [illegible] Pass 4140'. [illegible]. Loggers working on La Moine ridge. Lower logged zones appear orderly, not clear cut, few scars [illegible] slash piles. / Tracked road to Lookout, but mostly too hard from rains in

C tu.-1 mid August. [illegible] at Slate Creek, Charley Hatch. First time a LO. No info on pumas, except second hand. Gave him page talk. Met Bob Gray, FCO. He said report this summer of sighting puma

Journal

2 Sept. 1976 — Shasta Nat For., Calif.

Report — at Gerard Ridge LO by Muriel Legrande, long time LO there. Also one by Don Alford on Gibson side of ridge. / Returned to Hayfork Lane + on to

C.t. -1 — Damnation P., then down Dog Cr. road. ^Trucks traveled aboard trails through

Ft. -1/2 — dust good in upper parts. (Logging on La M. ridge) Foot of road border, last mile

paved. Ryts on Chiquapin bushes now. / Drove to Mt. Shasta + USFS station. All informants away,

talked to girl in Jack Kahl office. / Camped near Castle Lake. Rain

low, murky, mossy, but 6:30-8 p.m. hooked 4 rainbows 10" in good condition, about near second bridge downstream. Blackberries ripe.

3 Sept. 1976. Clear, warm. Drove to Yreka, USFS. L. Forbin away. Conifer + brushy mts. to W. of Hornbrook, Cottonwood Mtn. area.

4 Sept. 1976. Drove down Klamath R., observing habitat. River fairly high + turbid. Conifers to river, 1600'; at Horse Creek — Doug. fir + some pines on N aspect slopes, open conifers, brush, black oaks on S slopes. Drove down Scott River, thru second growth ponderosa pines. Scott Bar 1800'. Drove up Mill Cr., where Tant + Jim Wilson had hunted ^puma years ago. Road one way, paved, then gravel. Mixed vegetation, shrubs, Doug. fir, oaks, madrone, maple. Brush on slopes to N, toward Bald Mtn. DF to S. 5 1/2 miles, 3000'; old house, formerly of Rusty Clausen (now in trailer at Klamath R.) Now a "hippy" type there. Said walked much, had seen no pumas tho Clausen had said a puma

C-1 — path near + that cats came about November. Man had dogs, cats, goats, chickens, ducks — seemed ideal for depredations. Briefed him on trailer; left description sheet + my card. / I returned to Klamath R. ~~Few~~ ^Rare fisherman + water high. Drove to Happy Camp, ^Gene Shays out (houndsman). Drove up Elk Creek to start Titus R. rd. (1700'). Up this graveled road 4 miles to crest, where had found tracks in Oct. 1974. But now ground hard from mid-August rains. Found no puma sign. Need dry weather, wheel traffic. Saw group of nearly full grown Oreortyx. Hot day.

Journal

5 Sept. 1976. ~~Monday~~. Klamath R., Siskiyou Co., Calif.

Drove Titus Ridge but dirt road hard. Also turnout on Independence Cr.
c-1 road. Drove downstream to Ti Bar road. Talked w. USFS man (Gallmore or Gilson ?). No logging on district now. Drove up toward Ukonom L.O. Paved, then partly graveled, hard dirt. Tracking poor, SC 1-2. At lookout talked w. Lilian Dealy, lookout last year at Offield L.O. She had good photo footprints of youngish puma – tracks for 1/4 mi. on road to N. of LO in June 1976. Local FS people unable to identify surely, she said; some thought track was of a wolf! Rain 1-7 August, last on 18 August; over 3" this season so far. Track – toes pointed, curves of pad angular. No cattle on this district. / I drove E toward Ten Bear, to start 13N02 loop, 3500'.
C-1 But loop road too hard for tracks (Sec. 2). / Back W. and took Camp 3 road, start 2400', paved at start. Then new gravel. 5 mi, crossed Sandy Cr., area of some reports. Beyond still partial gravel. above Stanshaw Drainage, granite sandy. Doug. fir, tan oak, chinquapin trees. ~~Fo~~ Went on up to Haypress trail-
C. to cg. 2 mi. head, where 10± cars parked. Doug. fir, inc. cedar, white fir, tree chinquapin. Tracking poor, spots only. / Drove to Offield LO. New man this year, here 4 mos. No puma info, tho knows of former reports. Said Walt Tregaskis, of ranch below, claimed to have treed 5 pumas betw. Offield & Sawing Mtn. (on one day ?). / I saw several groups of large young Oreortyx during day.

6 Sept. 1976. Monday, Labor Day. Fog in Klamath R. canyon. Went to USFS station at Somes Bar. Talked w Steve Mullen, 50 years in area – said had seen only 2 in life while hunting. Once found deer carcass, covered by lion. Mike Mullen of Orleans, said father used to hunt w. dogs, mostly in Black Mtn. – Boise Cr. area (S. of Orleans), & took many pumas before 1970. Office reports: Ti Bar rd 5/14 (Steve Beall, young); Sandy
Repts. Bar area (S 23) 6/7 (Beall + W. Jepson), on road; Little N. Fk. trail, first creek crossing (1½ mi. up ?), by Tom Potter (unknown locally), 8/7/76.

Journal

~~7~~ 6 Sept. 1976. Siskiyou Co.

I drove up Salmon R. Steelhead now running + salmon in river at mouth of Wooley Cr. On to Sawyer's Bar area. Talked w. J. Nels Mc Broom, Hunted lions much in 50's. He said had seen no puma sign this year tho had been all over area on roads + trails. No further info on Crapo Cr. cat of last year (Bennett Ranch). Had not been to Bloomer Diggings (nr. Nordheimer Fl.) for years; formerly track big ♂ in summer, apparently salt lick area. He said once Steve Matthes had come + hunted for sign; found only one. No more info on Music Cr. cat. Told me of hunters in Ft. Jones area, Paul Black, Quigley (hunted Middle Cr. area); Frank (apparently a "bad" hunter who killed too many). Mc B. knew Jim Weldon, Jeff Brant, Matthes, others. Mc B. used to hunt Taylor Cr. He ~~thought~~ lions followed deer during migration – migrated from S. Fk. Salmon on to S. to near Yolla Bolly's. An old car of C. Trant left in Mill Cr. area. Mc B. about 50 yrs. old, lives alone, lived crudely in old house. Seemed very willing to help. / I went to USFS, R.S. Talked w. men. One (Ball?) said in old days saw no lions but hunters succeeded in getting them; now he hears many more reports. One man (very lean) who reads rain gauges up Little N. Fk. said he saw tracks there in winter, near Little N. Fk. road. (Mc Broom had not heard of but thought possible.) Talked w. Bob Smart, ranger now. He said I could have Mc B. as guide one day in October. / Many tourists out today. I drove on to Idlewild and up Russian Creek about 4 mi; all too hard + oiled for tracking; logging in progress. Drove 2 mi. N. of Idlewild on dirt road; dusty but car traffic too much; summer houses along road. / I drove on to Etna Summit. Open, granite; red fir 6000.' Mostly ponderosa p. on E. slopes. / Mc Broom blamed increased roads, easy access, + poachers for depletion pumas and other game.

Journal (puma survey)

7 Sept. 1976 — To Berkeley, Calif.

Drove via Etna, Callahan, to Scott Mtn. summit. Thence to Coffee Cr. & on down E side of Clair Engle Lake (much drawn down). Took Clear Creek road, dirt + [illegible] in parts, to Damnation Pass. Thence down Dog Cr. road. / At 2700', stopped at crossing clear streamlet and took a large giant salamander (Dicamptodon) (Kept in aquarium - O.K. Jan. 1977) in 2' diam. pool. Saw 2 more in larger pool. Backs mottled, not solid dark color. Cold clear water. / On down to highway 5 & on 5. Stopped at ranger station; B. Johnson away, but left info for her. Continued on to Berkeley.

c. tr. eq. 2 mi

8 Sept. 1976. Telephone conversation w. Mrs. Owings re meeting w. Hunt & Leopold on 14 Sept., public meeting at Sacramento on 29 Sept.

10 Sept. 1976. Heavy rains in S. Calif., from Yosemite on south.

16 Sept. 1976. With Susanne, drove via Sacramento to Auburn, to confer with Ray Nelson, bear-lion-coyote control man of USFWS. He has helped w. puma hunting on F & G study area and has taken about 8 pumas during last fiscal year on depredation permits. All of those were ♂♂, except for 2 ♀♀ in Santa Barbara Co. (nr. Figueroa Mtn. & San Marcos Ranch). / Ray lived w. wife Lois on side road (Lone Star extension) about 7 mi. toward Grass V. on Hwy 49. This year he had taken 2 ♂ pumas near Forest Hill divide, one old May 15, another est. 3 yrs June 7. (He said one of these had killed sheep last yr. but was not taken then (slit ear)). Sheep had been put on the Nat. Forest at about 3500' on a Thursday; 11 killed in one night on Saturday. During last 4 years, 4 or 5 pumas taken on depredation in that area. Usually soon after sheep put out; sheep fed on big Ceanothus (integerrimus) mainly & worked up slopes to E. Even when sheep together with men nearby & several dogs around them, puma took sheep. (I have some info. on last 2 in letter from R.N. at

Hooper photos 6/7 →

Journal

16 Sept. 1976 — Nr. Auburn, Placer Co., Calif. USFWS

least 1 arrived w. no skull at F+G lab). For depred. kill, a justification form filled out in ~~duplicate~~; copy to F+G. Ray had ~~detected~~ puma sign in about 4 townships, at sites from Humbug Ridge, S. to Michigan Bluff, and NE up Deadwood Ridge area. He thought at least 5 cats using ~~adult~~ that area, including 2 ♀♀ ~~adults~~, ~~one~~ at least one adult. He had taken depredator at Elliott Ranch first year, another near Westville. He thought Codfish Ct. ridge especially good for sign. Ray had not been to the Game Refuge. The 1976 kills probably in eastern S 3, T14N, R11E, I judged, on E. side of Chicken Hawk Ridge Road in from Baker Ranch. Ray said Nevada Point (nr. Hell Hole Res.) was a J Bruce hunting area. / Ray had poor opinion of the F+G project in Monterey Co. & especially of Larry Sitton. But ~~ray~~ Ray thought the hounds did not hurt the pumas. He had seen the wounded ♂♂ there & said injury was not by dogs, but thought not serious enough to kill the puma. Ray says 90-95% of depred. are by ♂♂, but old as well as young ones.

Placer Co.

17 Sept. 1976. We joined Ray + Lois for a trip to puma depredation sites to NE of Foresthill ~~Forest Hill~~ a small town. about 3 mi beyond, near Baker Ranch, took dirt road toward Michigan Bluff, + 1/2 mile from that turned N. up Chicken ~~Chicken~~ Hawk ridge to site of sheep kills last May. Ray said puma kills several sheep. Then drags one off into brush, feeds on it, + may cover it and leave it. He showed me remains of about 4 sheep (wool, bones) in brush pastur-ages near the sheep camp. Area of mixed vegetation, much large Cean-~~oth~~ other brush (Ray ~~Ray~~ called it "birch") but manzanita + others too, second growth pines (50'), black oaks; 20% slope to S. (+ mtn misery). Sheep killed during daylight. Ray said one living ♀ in Humbug Valley area had one long toe, distinctive footprint. His second yr. here, about 3 yrs. ago, puma killed 10± sheep at camp when herded together + surrounded by about 10 dogs; sheep

Journal

17 Sept 1976 Placer Co., Calif.

camps in a small meadow. We drove out to Baker R.-Robinson Flat road, paved and smooth, about 3 yrs old. Many dirt spurs. Much of area in planted yellow pines 10-15 tall, with mixed brush between. Ray drove out on some turnouts to look for sign. N. Mitchell Mine rd, said had been track of ♀ w. long toe. Ground still hard from rains so tracking poor. A few times Ray let his 4 dogs out for exercise & relief, not helpin finding tracks. He said always knows sex of puma before he puts dogs on trail - but he had no definite measurements to go by, just judgment. We went out Sugar Pine rd. (to N), crossed Hollow Log rd & on to area of July sheep kill. Mixed brush w. spaces to walk thru, w. lots of slash & 15' p. pine trees (planted). Carcass had been dragged about 1/2 mi. (down 10% brushy slope, across rd.) said Ray. Hooper of UC Davis had photoed kill. about 1/2 mi NE of Big Res. We also drove out dirt Humbug Ridge road to end, about 5 mi E. of Baxter; found bear tracks, occas. coyote or fox droppings / On many points of puma behavior, Ray had strong ideas but it was difficult to separate personal experience from what he had heard from others. He thought tracks of ♂ kitten at 8 mos. already larger than tracks of mother, & that young often left during day by mother before about 8 mos. He thought ♂ much more fixed in travel routes & behavior than ♀, most likely to walk roads (on narrow jeep road). At first site (Chicken Hawk), we found two old apparent puma scratches; Ray said made since the sheep depredation in May. / Ray had visited the Napa Co. site where about 40 sheep killed about 1973; said sure it was a male, took cover in brush clumps on an open hill; puma not taken (on Napa-Sonoma Rd; Jameson Cny? ~~on St. Helena road area?~~). / We drove to Placerville, on east over Echo Pass, S. thru Markleeville and camped near Monitor Pass on Leviathan Mine Rd. about 7800'. No snow on ground.

Journal

17 Sept. 1976. Alpine Co.

Overcast sky. Open, short *Artemisia* shrubs, scattered Jeffery pines, big mt. mahogany bushes, many cattle tracks. This was a favorite winter hunting area for pumas. Deer tracks less now. / Was former puma pop. here related to sheep flocks + movements? What was history sheep raising in Slinkard - Walker area?

18 Sept. 1976. Drove down W. Walker river. Many campers, trailers (for ?). Up Sonora Pass rd. Marine MWTC area. Went up to Leavitt Lake, 3 mi. Hiked in to Grizzly Meadow. (Frosty night.) Saw marmots, deer tracks, Belding ground squirrels, many gopher workings, a few deer (season opens 25th). Saw golden eagle adult, later juv. w. mostly white tail, apparent white-tailed kite. Visited Lost L. (brook tr. only), High Emigrant L, Em. Mdw. L. (rainbow tr.), both Grizzly Mdw. lakes (rainbow to 12"). Returned to Leavitt Lake + drove to Berkeley on 19 Sept.

27 Sept. 1976. Meeting with ASL, M Owings, + F+G people (Hunt, Weaver) re puma program. Berkeley / In afternoon, attended part of meeting of Citizens Advisory Committee, including Maxine McCloskey, Rudy Ruibal of UC Riverside, State Bldg San Francisco. More talk re mgt. puma. Committee favored continuation of moratorium as at present.

29 September 1976, with Peter Steve + David Scuff, students, drove to Sacramento for a public meeting on puma mgt. about 12 people. Hunt + Weaver from F+G. Lowell — of Vallejo, — Baker of Porterville, only ones to speak on hunting side. Bill Butler present, [illegible] L. Sutton + Sue Walker there, [illegible] Owings, + [illegible] Harms of Sonoma, Paul Corey of Sonoma. [illegible] favorable to maintaining moratorium.

Berkeley

13 October 1976. Hunt phoned from F+G to say that one or 2 complaints of puma depredation in San Diego Co. [illegible] suggested [illegible].

Journal

13 October 1976 To Sequoia Nat. For., Calif.

ing offender but getting practical research information from it. Departed noon and drove via Los Banos to Dinkey Cr. area and camped in trailer. Found large amt of rain about a week ago.

14 October. Looked for puma signs near Pollard Flat where [illegible] in summer, and also near Bald Mtn. summit where bear hit in summer. No signs seen. / Dinkey Cr. Sta. — secretary said no recent reports of pumas. Dave Van Buren said same; none since last month. He will go for a week of bear hunting [illegible] Mike Michaels to-morrow, Crown Valley area, & will look for puma signs & talk to Michaels about pumas in region. / I telephoned Dick Weaver in Sacramento. He will be in Glennville tomorrow night to hunt puma tracks w. Mike Doran. I plan to meet them. / Dave said much of rain about 10 days ago, 4" when hurricane near S. Calif. / I drove down road to Dinkey Saddle. Tracking fair in dust [illegible]. Also went E. to [illegible] Flat, jct. [illegible]. Deer tracks but no puma tracks found. / Worked at camp. Calm & clear but cool in shade today. [illegible] hiking, a Douglas squirrel scolded [illegible] descending from tree toward me to about 20'.

Tr. 3 mi.

To Glennville

15 Oct. 1976 Clear, cold, slight frost. Waited at Dinkey Sta. for Michaels, but he did not come by 0930. (Dave Van B. will send report.) Drove then to Sanger, Porterville, to Glennville to meet Mike Doran, houndsman, Fountain Springs area had hills with rock outcrops, rare houses; seemed good for condor feeding. Then Blue oak, Digger pine on hills en route to Glennville, and rare habitations, arrived Glennville about 3:45 p.m. Doran lives on N. side hwy, 1/4 mi. E. of P.O. Several stores & a church in town, about 3200' elev. / Doran arrived about 1630. about 40 yrs, chain smoker & coffee drinker. Talked pumas w. him. He had measured previously fore foot, length from medial lobe to tip longest toe,

Journal

15 October 1976 Glennville, Kern Co., Calif.

width maximum across toes + pad, so angles different from mine and measurements more variable + usually larger than by my right-angle system. He ~~thought~~ was sure that he could tell ♂ tracks by fact that ratio ~~hind~~ fore/~~fore~~ hind width was greater in ♂, ~~+ that~~ ♂ track was larger than female even in 8 month kittens! He was also sure that he could identify sex of treed cats w/o seeing genitalia. He had plotted sites of tracks + treeings on USFS maps – from Greenhorn Summit (6102) north to Hatchet Pk. (6385), in 4 townships. Tracks of a group of ~~5~~ 3 kittens + 1 or 2 ads. once observed in White River Camp area (by Weaver + others) but no tracks recently in that area. When survey started (April?), could find tracks only on Black Mtn. rd. Obviously 1 large ♂ and one young ♂ found repeatedly. One cat had been marked w. black hair dye. Two radiocollared; only one radio gave returns, several. His judgment of no. individuals based partly on his estimates of relative size of treed cats. Supposedly one of R.L. Milton's treed cats had a visible scratch or scar on one leg. (Milton has tracked + treed some. Weaver said R.L. "less ready to ~~guess~~ estimate sex of cats. Doran said formerly hunted in Ventura Co. + S.B. Co., practically everywhere. Seems overconfident, relies much on judgment not based on specific characters, but more objective than many others. [We waited for Weaver, and Kurt – from Davis (wanted to get fresh blood). Doran wanted to hunt at night because many hunters in hills now, start of ~~first~~ bear hunting season. To wait, I drove up Greenhorn S. road to Alder Cr. rd. About 11 p.m., Doran came; said Kurt not there yet. I returned w. him to Glennville. Then we went in his car via Jack Ranch to White River Camp road, dirt but hard. Used spotlights out windows + drove slowly to look for puma tracks. Found none. Met one houndsman after bear. Weaver joined + followed us. We went east ~~at~~ past Sugarloaf Lodge, then up

Journal (Puma)

16 October 1976 N. Kern Co., Calif.
(via Cold Spr.)
to Portuguese Pass, then via Tyler Mdw. to Dunlap Saddle + near Baker Pt., then back to Schultz Cr. area. About daylight then; slept for a while. No puma sign found. Then back via Portuguese Pass to Dark Mtn. road. About 1 mile out, looked afoot. Soon found partial track + fair tracks of an adult ♂, near curve in a draw where Doran had found tracks before.

+ radio
♂ 55
♀ 43

♂ track h.p. 56, f.p. 63. hp 54, fp 63. Lateral lobes of heelpads angular. Another track hp. 43 wide, probably ♀; no toes visible. Substrate sandy dust about 2 mm. deep. Mixed conifer + black oaks, about 6000'. Checked a few other points w. radio, trying to locate collared cat. No signal. Doran said some pumas on Blue Mtn.,

c. 5

rept. where a LO about 4 mi NW of Glennville. He said that a friend reported tracks including kittens near TV tower top Breckenridge Mtn on Kern River side (last fall? winter?) rept.

28 October 1976. Thurs. Went to Sacramento, to field station of Calif. F+G, to talk w. R. Weaver + O Brunetti, and to assist in necropsy of 2 pumas, F+G nos. 10 ♂ and 11 ♀. These young, w. some ventral spots, 84 lbs. (♂) + 79 lbs. ♀ ovary had enlarging follicles. I saved repro. organs ♂ in formalin. Measured feet; hindfoot pads 47 mm. across, larger than I had expected from other tracks, and about same size in both sexes! [possibly dried in freezing] Previously I thought ♂ considerably larger than ♀ track even at 1 year of age. One ♀ hit by car, ♂ shot as said to be bothering dogs. Skulls will be kept at F+G lab. with others. / I saw ovary from previous ♀ that had 3 embryos (C-R 15); had 4 8 mm. corpora lutea, yellow in formalin preservation. / The ♀ #11 had enlarged follicles in ovary, 3 R 1 L. / Weaver planned to continue tracking surveys

Journal

28 October 1976. Sacramento, Calif.

in future and asked me for more details. He also said that Mike Doran had captured & collared a ♀ that had been accompanying a ♂ (as shown by tracks); Doran had thought from tracks that it was a ♂.

Berkeley

Jan. 1977. Mrs. Owings phoned that Charlie Fullerton had phoned her that F&G would recommend continuation of moratorium conditions, w. review after 5 years. / About Jan. 15, Weaver phoned that 2 puma carcasses from Monterey Co. at Sacramento lab. Apparently one was from Cooper School road near Big Sur, where several sheep taken in 2 nights, & a ♀ was trapped. Apparently this ♀ juv (over Brunetti). Other a 115 lb ♂. Neither Brunetti nor Weaver knew site or circumstances of kills. / 19 Jan., student of Ron Barrett at Humboldt St. phoned. He had helped Tom Foster on Monterey S.A. study area. He said had tried foot tracking w. fair success there. Also that another dead collared cat was found late in 1976.

August 1977. After assembly & senate committee hearings, which I attended in late April and in early August, the continuation of sport hunting of pumas was signed into law on 27 August.

December 1977. Completed final report and distributed 60 copies, xeroxed, to officials, agencies, and individuals concerned. End of Calif. puma study project.

puma project